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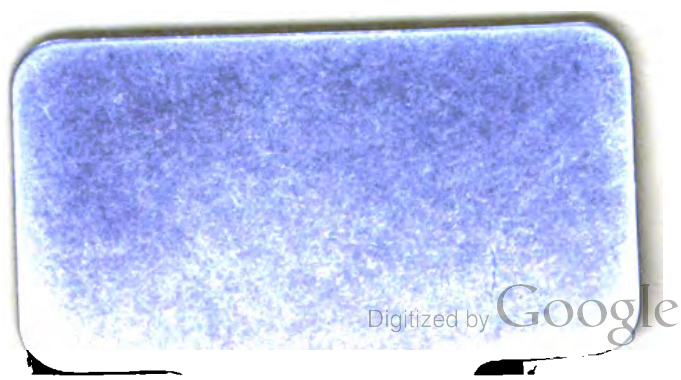
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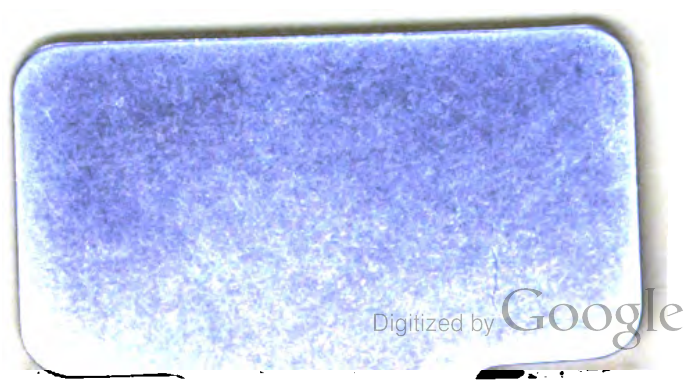
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SURSUM CORDA:

Aids to Private Devotion.

BIBLIOTH

BEING

A BODY OF PRAYERS

COLLECTED FROM THE WRITINGS OF

ENGLISH CHURCHMEN.

COMPILED AND ARRANGED BY

FRANCIS E. PAGET, M.A.,

RECTOR OF ELFORD.

"DAY BY DAY: WE MAGNIFY THEE:
AND WE WORSHIP THY NAME: EVER WORLD WITHOUT END?"

PART I.

LONDON:

J. MASTERS, ALDERSGATE STREET.

MDCCCXLVII.

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PREFACE.

IT is manifestly impossible to prepare anything like a *complete* manual of private devotions for even a single class of Christians. So diversified are our states of mind and degrees of spiritual progress,—so various our needs, difficulties, trials, infirmities, transgressions, lapses, relapses,—so manifold are our mercies,—and so continually are fresh combinations of circumstances arising to supply us with fresh subjects for prayer or praise, that no single volume, nor indeed any number of volumes could

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be so prepared as to comprise set forms of devotion in which persons would find what would exactly suit their particular case under all the perpetually changing exigencies of daily life.

Nor is it needful or desirable that an attempt should be made to prepare such a body of devotions. In grace, as in nature, advance and progress are gradual. "The attainment of great things is slow." In our prayers, as in all other good things, we must be content to go forward, step by step; at first tottering and leaning on such outward supports as are within our reach, like children learning to walk; and then, as we get strength, and are accustomed to the work, holding ourselves erect, and standing independent of our earlier

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aids. It is only when we seek earnestly the spirit of prayer, and grow more instant therein, that we learn to appreciate its value and comfort. The more we pray the more we shall feel that whatever befals us from hour to hour ought to be made the subject of prayer or praise. And the highest of all spiritual states is that, in which the habit of incessant prayer is so formed, that the soul abides in a condition something nearly approaching to that of unbroken communion with GOD. And he who is advancing to such a state will have no need of manuals whereby he may instruct himself how to offer suitable prayers under the various exigencies of the passing hour. Out of the abundance of his heart his mouth will speak.

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On the other hand, such a manual as we have spoken of, (supposing for a moment one could be formed) would be rather discouraging and overwhelming than profitable and helpful to a beginner. Its fulness and variety would only bewilder him; and he would be likely either to content himself with a low standard of devotion, and give up in despair the attempt to become "a man of prayer;" or he would fall into the error of trying to work himself up, and stimulate himself into an unreal state, and so get the shadow instead of the substance of true devotion.

Still, there are many who, like the compiler of the following pages, feel that (between temptations to wandering thoughts, and a difficulty in expressing with fulness and reverence

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their various wants,) they have need of external aid, and so will be glad to have the opportunity of shaping their own petitions upon the models bequeathed us by those who in their day were bright and shining lights in the Church of GOD.

For the use of such persons, the present collection, gathered out of the writings of the soundest divines of the Reformed Church in England, has been put forth; and its claim on the consideration of pious Churchmen is, that it differs from the manuals in ordinary use in this respect, that whereas they give one different form of devotions for each day and no more, thus confining the expression of devotional feeling within fixed (and those narrow) limits; in the volume now in the reader's hand, the

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various prayers are arranged under the several heads of confession, thanksgiving, and the like, so as to enable each individual to make, on each separate occasion, such a selection as seems most applicable to his own case at that particular moment.

If it please GOD so far to send His blessing on the present attempt, as that it should be found generally useful, it is proposed to publish another volume as a companion to it, which shall contain Devotions for Sundays, for the Fasts and Festivals of the Church, together with Litanies, Prayers for Communicants, and for persons in sickness and sorrow, and also forms of self-examination.

F. E. P.

Elford Rectory,
MIDSUMMER, 1847.

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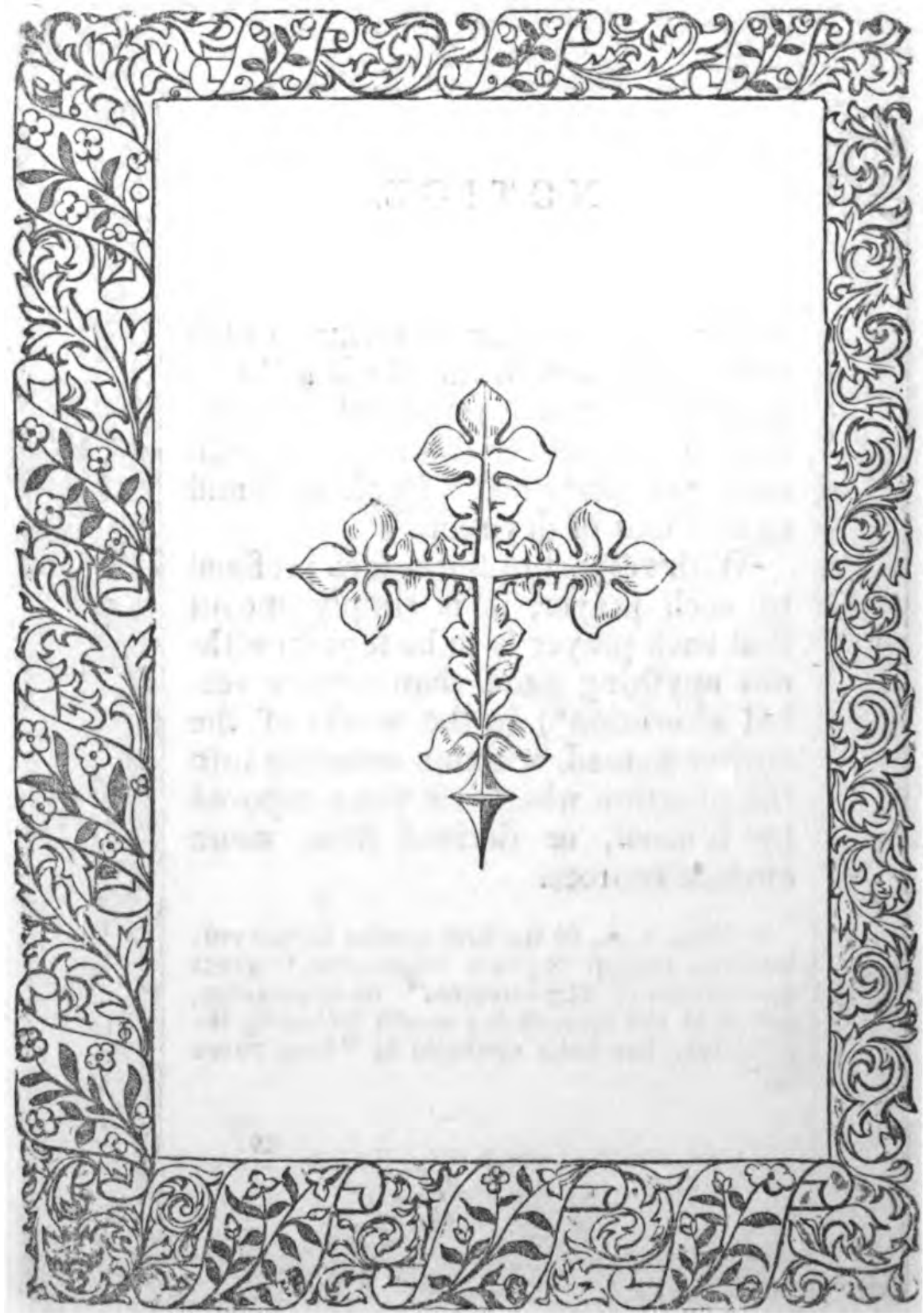
NOTICE.

No Prayers or Thanksgivings which are to be found in the Book of Common Prayer are reprinted here, as it is presumed that every Churchman has his Prayer Book at hand at all times of devotion.

With respect to the names prefixed to each prayer, it is simply meant that such prayer is to be found (without anything more than a mere verbal alteration*) in the works of the author named, without entering into the question whether it was composed by himself, or derived from more ancient sources.

* Thus, *e. g.*, in the first prayer in this collection, Bishop Taylor's expression, "great resentment of Thy mercies," (an expression, which at the present day would be hardly intelligible,) has been changed to "deep sense of."

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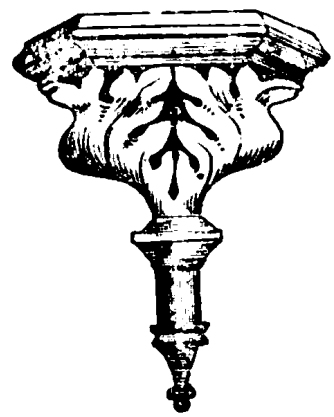


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AFTER THIS MANNER, PRAY YE:

Our Father, Which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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Forms

of

Preparatory Prayer.

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O Lord, open Thou my lips.

Psalm li. 15.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart: be always acceptable in Thy sight,

O Lord: my Strength and my Redeemer.

Psalm xix. 14, 15.

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Forms

of

Preparatory Prayer.

A PRAYER AGAINST WANDERING THOUGHTS, TO BE SAID AT THE BEGINNING OF OUR DEVOTIONS.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Who hast commanded us to pray unto Thee without ceasing, and hast added many glorious promises for our encouragement, let Thy HOLY SPIRIT teach me how to pray: give me just apprehensions of my want, zeal of Thy Glory, deep sense of Thy mercies, love of all spiritual employments that are pleas-

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ing unto Thee; and do Thou help mine infirmities, that the devil may not abuse my fancy with illusions, nor distract my mind with cares, nor alienate my thoughts with impertinencies; but give me a present mind, great devotion, a heart fixed upon Thy divine beauties, and an actual intention and perseverance in my prayers, that I may glorify Thy Name, do unto Thee true and laudable service, and obtain relief for all my necessities. Hear me, O King of Heaven, when I call upon Thee; for Thou hast promised mercy to them, that pray in the Name of our LORD and SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

A PREPARATORY PRAYER.

BISHOP WILSON.

O HOLY SPIRIT of Grace! give us a true sight of our miseries, and a sincere shame and sorrow when we make

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confession of our sins; a feeling sense of our need of mercy, and a hope of obtaining pardon, when we beg it for Thy Son's sake. May we resign our wills to Thee and to Thy goodness, when we pray for temporal things; and when we pray for spiritual graces, may we hunger and thirst after righteousness. Give us a real love for Thy Holy Word, and grace to hear it with attention. May we thankfully close with all the means of grace and salvation. When we praise Thee for Thy works of nature and of grace, and give Thee thanks for Thy mercies, let us do it with high esteem and gratitude. Cause us to hear Thy Holy Word with faith and attention, and to profit by what we hear, that we may return from Thy church with a blessing. *Amen.*

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PRAYER FOR GRACE TO WORSHIP GOD ACCEPTABLY.

HELE.

O ETERNAL and most glorious GOD, the great Creator, gracious Preserver, and wise Governor of the world; Holy, holy, holy, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, Which was, and is, and is to come; Blessed for evermore; I, sinful dust and ashes, in a deep sense of my own weakness and wretchedness, and an humble dependence on Thine infinite Power and Goodness, present myself before the Throne of Thy Grace, to offer up my sacrifice of prayer and thanksgiving. O Thou That hearest prayer, and of Whose only gift it cometh that we are able to pray unto Thee as we ought, mercifully look upon my infirmities; and send down Thy Holy Spirit of grace and supplication upon me, that I may worship Thee in spirit and in truth, with fixedness of mind and fervency

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of desire, with humility and reverence, faith and charity, such as Thou wilt be graciously pleased to accept, through the mediation of Thine Only Son our SAVIOUR, JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

A PREPARATORY PRAYER.

SPINCKES.

PREVENT me, I beseech Thee, O LORD, in all my doings, with Thy most gracious inspirations; and further me with Thy continued help, that every prayer and religious duty of mine may begin always from Thee, and in Thee be happily ended, and more especially the service I am now entering upon: suffer not the vanities of this world to divert my thoughts from what I am about, nor to distract my attention, and carry away my affections from Thee. O let me not incur the guilt of drawing near to Thee with my lips, while my heart

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is far from Thee: but quicken my soul, which cleaveth to the dust; spiritualize my grovelling affections; possess my heart which opens itself to Thy gracious influences, with such a strong and vigorous love towards Thee, that whenever I prostrate myself before Thee, my heart may be fixed and stayed on Thee, and my cold and earthly desires touched with an out-stretched ray from Thyself, till they flame up to Thee in fervours answerable to my pressing wants: that I may so ask as to receive, so seek as to find, so knock that it may be opened unto me, through JESUS CHRIST, my Blessed LORD and REDEEMER. *Amen.*

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Acts of Confession.

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HE THAT COVERETH HIS SINS SHALL NOT PROSPER: BUT WHOSO CONFESSETH AND FORSAKETH THEM SHALL HAVE MERCY.

PROVERBS XXVIII. 13.

IF WE CONFESS OUR SINS HE IS FAITHFUL AND JUST TO FORGIVE US OUR SINS, AND TO CLEANSE US FROM ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.

1 JOHN I. 9.

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Acts of Confession.

A FORM OF CONFESSION.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

("Per L. A. W.," i.e. probably, Lancelot Andrewes of Winton.)

ALMIGHTY GOD and most Merciful FATHER, all merciful, mercy itself; I have erred wittingly, and strayed willingly, nay run from Thy ways, more like an untamed heifer, than a lost or wandering sheep. I have followed too much, even altogether, the absurd devices and brutish desires of my own heart. I have offended against, nay been offended at, Thy holy, most holy laws; I have left undone, not done at all, those things which I ought to have done; and I have done, done nothing else, but those things which I ought not to

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have done; and there is no health, no hope of health in me. But Thou, O LORD, have mercy upon me, miserable, most miserable sinner, the greatest sinner, and most unthankful for so great Grace. Spare me, and them all, O GOD, which confess their faults: restore me, and all them that be penitent, that desire to be penitent, that wish they were, would be glad if they were so, that fear they are not enough, and are sorry they are no more: for this is according to Thy promises, most precious, most gracious, most sweet promises, declared unto mankind in CHRIST JESU our LORD. Grant therefore, O most merciful FATHER, for His sake, Who is our Redeemer, Advocate, Author and Finisher of our faith, our propitiation, righteousness, and justification, that I and all penitents may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of Thy Holy Name, and the salvation of our own souls. *Amen.*

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A FORM OF CONFESSION.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Powerful and Merciful, Thou art a jealous GOD against persevering sinners, but a gracious Father to the Penitent: let Thy merciful ears be opened to the petitions of Thy servant, who, with sorrow and shame, confesses his sins unto Thee.

I have loved the world, not Thee; I have obeyed the desires of my own heart, not Thy holy laws and commandments: I have often left my duty undone, but have not ceased to please my senses, and to feed greedily upon vanity: Thou hast commanded us to love our brethren, and, instead of loving them, I have slandered and reproached, injured and tempted them, envied their good, and rejoiced in their calamity.

O Blessed GOD, I am ashamed when I remember my follies, my vio-

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lent passions, my peevishness and pride, my vain thoughts and unprofitable words, my uncharitable and useless conversation: I spend my days in idleness and folly, my nights in the images and causes of death; and though my sins are so many that I cannot number them, yet I so little apprehend my own dangers, that I neither leave them utterly nor heartily deplore them.

But, O GOD, Thou GOD of pity and compassion, have mercy upon me: For Thou art our Father, merciful and gracious, and Thou hast revealed to mankind an infinite mercy in JESUS CHRIST. For His sake be pleased to give me repentance and to give me pardon, and grant that my soul being washed in the Blood of the Holy Lamb and the baptism of repentance, I may live a gracious, a holy, and a blessed life, in all godliness, and honesty, and sobriety, and may die in the love of GOD, in the charity of my neighbours, in the

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communion of the Church, and in a sure and certain hope of life eternal; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

A FORM OF CONFESSION.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, Great LORD of heaven and earth, I, a miserable sinner, with fear and shame, cast myself down before Thee, humbly confessing my manifold sins and unsufferable wickednesses, by which I have deserved Thy wrath, and that I should be separated from the sweetest comforts of Thy Presence for ever. I confess, O Great GOD, I have sinned against Thee by knowledge and by ignorance, by folly and by surprise, by word and deed, by anger and desires, by night and by day, in private and in public, by the lusts of the flesh and the vanity and pride of my spirit: my sins of

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omission are infinite, and the sins of my tongue cannot be numbered. O GOD, Thy words and laws are holy, and Thy judgments are terrible; but I have broken all Thy righteous laws and commandments, and I have great cause to be afraid of Thy severest judgments: and where shall I appear when Thou art angry with me? But Thou shalt answer for me, O LORD my GOD: Thou art my Judge, but Thou art my Redeemer; I have sinned, but Thou, O Blessed JESUS, art my Advocate. Have mercy upon me; have mercy upon me, most miserable sinner; enter not into judgment with me, lest I die: let not Thine anger arise, lest I be consumed; but spare me, gracious LORD, spare Thy servant, whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy most precious Blood: O reserve not evil in store for me against the day of vengeance, but show Thy goodness in me, and let Thy mercies be magnified upon me: deliver me, O LORD, from the power

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of sin; and preserve me from the punishments of it, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

A FORM OF CONFESSION.

BISHOP KEN.

O THOU great Judge of heaven and earth, before Whose glorious Majesty even the good Angels, who never sinned, fall prostrate and tremble. With what debasement and dread ought I to appear before Thy awful Presence, who am but dust and ashes, and which is infinitely worse, a miserable wretched sinner! Holy, holy, holy, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, with the least approbation; the way of the wicked, and the sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to Thee. Woe is me then, O LORD, woe is me, for I have inclined unto wickedness with my heart, but for the sake of Thy well-beloved SON, cast not out

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my prayer nor turn Thy mercy from me. Miserable wretch that I am, I have gone astray from the very womb; I was shapen in wickedness, and in sin did my mother conceive me! Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? What is man then, O GOD, that he should be clean; or he that is born of a woman, that he should be righteous? Thou, LORD, puttest no trust in Thy saints, and the heavens are not clean in Thy sight, and the very Angels Thou chargest with folly! How much more abominable then, and filthy am I, who daily drink iniquity like water! LORD, pity and cleanse, and forgive and save me, for Thy mercies' sake. I know, O GOD, that in my flesh dwelleth no good thing; for when I would do good, evil is present with me, and I see a law in my members warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin. LORD, have mercy upon me, and deliver me from this body of

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death, from this tyranny of sin. Alas! alas, my whole nature is corrupt, infinitely prone to all evil, and averse to all that is good; my understanding is full of ignorance and error; my will is perverse, my memory tenacious of all things that may pollute me, and forgetful of my duty: my passions are inordinate, my senses the inlets of all impurity, and I have abused all my faculties; I am unclean, unclean! LORD, pity and cleanse, and forgive and save me, for Thy mercy's sake.

O LORD GOD, how have I through my whole life violated the solemn vow I made to Thee in my baptism, by eagerly pursuing the vanities of this wicked world, by easily yielding to the temptations of the devil, by greedily indulging my own carnal desires and lusts, by a fruitless and dead faith, and by disobedience to Thy Holy Will and commands. FATHER, I have sinned against Heaven and in Thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called Thy son.

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I have sinned, O LORD GOD, I have sinned against Thee by ——[*Here confess the sins which you have committed more immediately against* GOD, *with their aggravations that accompany them. For instance*]—

LORD, I have committed this sin, or these sins frequently, against checks of conscience, &c. [*and then add,*] FATHER, I have sinned against Heaven, and in Thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called Thy son. O pity and cleanse, and forgive, and save me for Thy mercy's sake. I have sinned, O LORD GOD, I have sinned against Thee, and against my own self, by —— [*Here confess the sins you have committed more immediately against yourself, with their aggravations, &c., and say as before*], FATHER, I have sinned against Heaven, &c. I have sinned, O LORD GOD, I have sinned against Thee, and against my neighbour, by —— [*Here confess the sins you have committed more immediately against your neigh-*

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bour, with their aggravations, &c., and add as before], FATHER, I have sinned against Heaven, &c. O LORD GOD, my wickedness is great, and my iniquities are infinite; they are more in number than the hairs of my head, and my heart would fail me, but that I well know Thy mercies are more numberless than my sins. Have mercy upon me, therefore, O LORD, according to Thy great goodness, according to the multitude of Thy mercies do away my offences. Who, alas, can tell how oft he offendeth! O cleanse Thou me from my secret faults, from all my sins of ignorance or infirmity, or omission, or which I have not observed, or which I have forgot, LORD, lay none of them to my charge; FATHER, forgive me; LORD JESUS, have mercy upon me. O remember not the sins and offences of my youth, but receive me, O Heavenly FATHER, into the arms of Thy Fatherly compassion, as Thou didst the returning prodigal, and forgive

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me all my transgressions, for the merits of JESUS, Thy well-beloved SON, and my SAVIOUR. *Amen, Amen.*

A FORM OF CONFESSION.

LAKE.

ALMIGHTY and most Merciful FATHER, but a most severe and just Judge to all obstinate and impenitent sinners, I acknowledge and bewail my manifold sins and wickedness, which I from time to time most grievously have committed in thought, word, and deed, against Thy Divine Majesty. I have sinned, and what shall I do unto Thee, O Thou Preserver of man? I have left undone those things which I ought to have done; and I have done those things which I ought not to have done; and there is no health in me. But Thou, O LORD, have mercy upon me a most miserable offender. O

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GOD, Who desirest not the death of a sinner, but rather that he should turn from his wickedness and live, have mercy upon me; spare and restore me, who desire in all humility to confess my faults, and to be penitent for them; have regard to Thy Son JESUS CHRIST, Who is our Advocate with Thee, and the Propitiation for all our sins; for Whose sake grant me true repentance, and the assistance of Thy HOLY SPIRIT, to please Thee hereafter in all things, to teach and enable me to deny all ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, godly, and righteously in this present evil world, that so at last I may come to Thine eternal joy, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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A FORM OF CONFESSION.

BISHOP COSIN.

FORGIVE me my sins, O LORD, forgive me the sins of my youth, and the sins of my age, the sins of my soul, and the sins of my body, my secret and my whispering sins, my presumptuous and my crying sins, the sins that I have done to please myself, the sins that I have done to please others. Forgive me my idle and wanton sins. Forgive me my serious and deliberated sins; forgive me those sins which I know, and those sins which I know not; the sins which I have striven so long to hide from others, that now I have even hid them from my own memory. Forgive them, O LORD, forgive them all, and of Thy great goodness let me be absolved from mine offences, for JESUS CHRIST'S sake. *Amen.*

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A FORM OF CONFESSION.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O ETERNAL GOD and Merciful FATHER, pardon, I beseech Thee, all the sins, omissions, and commissions, thoughts, words, and deeds, by which I have provoked Thee unto anger, from the time of my birth to this present moment. That no one, nor all of my sins together, may ever be able to cry oftener or louder in Thine ears for vengeance, than the cry of my prayers may ascend up unto Thee for mercy and for forgiveness, and obtain that they sue for. Particularly I humbly beseech Thee, forgive unto me my great and my clamorous sins, such as are, &c.

O LORD, against Heaven and against Thee have I sinned, and committed foul transgressions in Thy sight; but, I beseech Thee, wipe them

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all out of the book of remembrances which Thou hast written, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD and only SAVIOUR. *Amen.*

CONFESSION OF SIN; AND PRAYER FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF IT, AND FOR GRACE FOR THE TIME TO COME.

[*Evening.*] HELE.

O ETERNAL and Almighty LORD GOD, Maker and Governor of the world, and our most Gracious and Merciful FATHER in CHRIST JESUS, I humbly pray Thee, in and through Him, to look down from Heaven, the habitation of Thy Holiness and Glory, upon me Thy sinful creature, now prostrate before Thee, to adore and worship Thee, and to own all dependence upon Thee: to implore Thy pardon of my sins, and to offer up

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my evening sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving for Thy many continued benefits and blessings. I am a sinful man, O LORD, and altogether unworthy to lift up mine eyes to Thine offended Majesty. Of the many days and years which Thou hast afforded me, how few are there of which I can give a just account to Thee, or to my own soul!—O my GOD, with shame and sorrow I confess, that as Thou of Thy mercy and forbearance increasest the number of my days, so, through the frailty and perverseness of my corrupt nature, I daily increase the number of my sins. In how many instances have I offended, this day? How far have I been from living answerably to the obligations of my holy profession; how far from walking before Thee in a due awe of Thy Sacred Presence, and of the account I am to give of my time, and of the talents committed to my trust!—LORD, my own heart condemns me; and Thou art infinitely

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greater than my heart, and knowest all things: but, O Merciful GOD, Who willest not that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance, give me, I beseech Thee, that repentance unto salvation, which Thou wilt be pleased to accept, Who triest the heart. Work in me an entire hatred of my sins; and enable me to offer unto Thee the sacrifice of a broken and contrite spirit, which Thou wilt not despise; and whereby I shall be entitled to the benefits of that all-sufficient sacrifice which Thy Blessed SON, by the oblation of Himself, hath made for all penitent and returning sinners. And, O LORD, I pray Thee, let the consciousness of my great sloth and unfaithfulness hitherto in all the parts of my stewardship excite me henceforward to a more diligent improvement of the talents Thou hast put into my hands. Make me ever mindful that I shall one day be brought to judgment, as for all that I have done in the flesh, so par-

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ticularly for those peculiar advantages I enjoy above many others: and O let these terrors of the LORD effectually persuade me to a cheerful employing of all I have received, to those ends for which Thou hast bestowed it. Teach me so industriously to husband the precious time Thou lendest me here, as may be in order to a blessed eternity hereafter. And grant that, by the assiduous practice of my duty, I may arrive at such a habit and relish of it, as may, by Thy Grace, enable me to subdue and mortify all sensual inclinations, and may make me feel and know that the ways of religion are indeed ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace; and that in the keeping of Thy commandments there is great reward. LORD, grant that I may seek before all things, to be approved by Thee as a good and faithful servant, and to be an instrument in Thy hand of bringing others to the obedience of CHRIST: and this I beg for the sake

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of the Same Thy SON JESUS CHRIST our SAVIOUR; Who with Thee, and the HOLY GHOST, liveth and reigneth, one GOD, world without end. *Amen.*

A FORM OF SPECIAL CONFESSION OF POST-BAPTISMAL SIN.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O LORD, I have sinned, and dealt wickedly, nay, offended Thee in all Thine ordinances. Let Thy wrath turn from me, for I am weak; and hear my prayers, and deliver me, for Thine own sake, and the merits of my SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST. Amen. Gracious FATHER, without Thee I can do nothing but sin; nor can I confess it to have pardon but by Thee. I was conceived and born in sin; and though Thou didst wash me from that in the laver of Baptism, yet I have since defiled myself again,

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and by many grievous actual sins have made myself a sinner above all other men, considering the great measure of grace that Thou hast given me. LORD, increase Thy Grace, and by it weaken first, and then cut off, my resistance, that I may see, and confess, and hate, and forsake all my sins, and find Mercy and Salvation in the Merits of my Blessed SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

A DEVOUT MANNER OF PREPARING OURSELVES TO RECEIVE ABSOLUTION.

BISHOP COSIN.

I THAT am a wretched sinner, here personally appearing and prostrate before the presence of the Everlasting GOD; having in remembrance the exceeding Mercy of His great Goodness towards me, whom He hath created of nothing, preserved, sus-

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tained, and loved, when I was most unworthy of anything; whom He hath of His incomprehensible clemency so often invited to repentance, and whose conversion and amendment He hath so patiently expected: as also having in memory, that at the day of my Christening I was so happily and holily vowed and dedicated unto my GOD, to be His child, and to live in His continual service; yet that contrary to the profession that was then made in my name, I have so many and sundry times, so execrably and detestably violated my vows, profaned my sacred promises, and employed my soul to the service of the world, the flesh, and the devil; thereby despising the graces, and contemning the Goodness of GOD's Divine Majesty: at length recalling myself, and in all lowly and devout wise here casting my soul and body prostrate before the dreadful throne of His Justice, I acknowledge and confess, and I yield myself a most miserable

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wretched sinner, guilty of that death and passion which CHRIST once suffered for me upon the tormenting Cross. But turning myself to the throne of His Infinite Mercy, and with all my might and force from the very bowels of my heart, detesting the iniquities of my forepast life, I most humbly beg and crave pardon for the same, with an entire absolution from all my sins, even for the precious death and passion's sake of my LORD and SAVIOUR: upon Whom, as upon the only foundation of my hope, I repose all my confidence, and unto Whom I promise and confirm again, I avow and solemnly renew the sacred profession of loyal service and fidelity, which was made in my name and in my behalf unto Him at my holy Baptism: renouncing unfeignedly the vanities of this wicked world, the lusts of all sinful flesh; and the suggestions of the devil; and converting myself unto my most Gracious and Merci-

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ful GOD, I desire, deliberate, purpose, and fully resolve to honour Him, serve Him, love Him, and obey Him, now and for ever hereafter. Giving and dedicating unto Him, for this end, the powers of my soul, the affections of my heart, and the faculties of my body, to be His faithful, loyal, and obedient servants for ever, without unsaying, revoking, or repenting me of this my holy and sacred promise, or any part thereof. And I most humbly beseech Almighty GOD, the FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST, to confirm me in this constant resolution, and to accept of this my broken and contrite heart, which He hath promised not to despise: entirely desiring His Fatherly Goodness, that as He hath given me a desire and will to purpose, so He would give me strength and grace to perform all holy actions, through JESUS CHRIST.

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A SPECIAL CONFESSION.

BISHOP COSIN.

I CONFESS, &c., those sins, which, if I would, I cannot hide from Him: my sins of pride and vain-glory, of hatred and envy, of gluttony and wantonness, &c., which I acknowledge, through my fault, even through my own fault, and my most grievous fault, to have committed against His Heavenly and Awful Majesty. I am an unclean and a sinful creature: I accuse myself of my wicked thoughts and desires that I have had, &c., of my wanton and evil words, that &c., of my naughty and ungodly deeds, that &c., for all which I am truly penitent from the depth of my soul, and am steadfastly resolved to show forth the fruits of repentance in my future course of life. And therefore, in all lowliness and humility of a bro-

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ken heart, I beg my pardon, and cry unto GOD for mercy towards me, a most sinful and unworthy creature: that He Whose nature and property it is to forgive sinners, and ever to have mercy upon them that truly turn unto Him, would vouchsafe, of His great pity and goodness, to give me the comfort of absolution, and a perfect remission of all my sins; to strengthen me in all good works, and to bring me unto life everlasting, through JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

AN ACT OF HUMILIATION.

BISHOP WILSON.

BEHOLD, O GOD, a creature, liable every moment to death, prostrate before Thee, begging, for JESUS CHRIST'S sake, that faith and repentance to which Thou hast promised mercy and pardon.

Discover to me, O Thou Searcher

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of hearts, the charge that is against me, that I may know, and confess, and bewail, and abhor, and forsake, and repent of all the evils I have been guilty of.

Have mercy upon me, have mercy upon me, most Merciful FATHER, Who desirest not the death of a sinner; for Thy SON JESUS CHRIST'S sake, forgive me all that is past.

And O Blessed Advocate, Who art able to save them for ever who come unto GOD by Thee, seeing Thou ever livest to make intercession for us, I put my cause into Thy hands; let Thy power defend me; Thy Blood and merits plead for me; supply all the defects of my repentance; procure for me a full discharge of all my sins before I die; and by Thy mighty grace confirm and strengthen me in all goodness, during the remainder of my life, that my death may be a blessing to me, and that I may find mercy at the Great Day. *Amen.*

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AN ACT OF HUMILIATION.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O LORD ALMIGHTY, I acknowledge and confess I am not worthy to lift up mine eyes to Heaven, much less to present myself before Thee with any confidence that Thou shouldest hear my prayers and grant my requests, if I consider my own deserving; for my conscience accuses me, and my sins witness against me; and Thou art a Just and an Upright Judge, and wilt not justify any sinner in his transgressions. O LORD, suffer me not to be swallowed up of death and desperation; but in the multitude of Thy mercies pardon me, O LORD, for Thy Goodness' sake. For though I am a worm and no man, yet Thou art my CREATOR, and I am the work of Thy hands; yea,

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Thou art my FATHER, and I Thy son; Thou my Shepherd, and I one of Thy straggling flock; Thou my REDEEMER, and I one of Thy people, whom Thou hast dearly bought; Thou my GOD, and I Thy creature. O correct me not in Thine anger, O LORD, neither punish me according to my deservings; but remember my weakness as well as my sin, and have mercy upon me, for my dearest SAVIOUR'S sake, JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR CONTRITION.

SPINCKES.

O MOST Merciful GOD, Who, notwithstanding my innumerable sins, my manifold abuses of Thy Goodness, and unthankfulness for Thy long suffering and patience towards me, vouchsafest to continue to me the means of Grace and repentance; awake my soul from

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this sleep of death, and make me duly sensible of the horror and deformity of my transgressions, and of the dreadful and insupportable eternity of torments to which, without repentance, they must consign me. Give me a deep contrition for having offended Thee, my Merciful CREATOR and REDEEMER; work in my soul that godly sorrow which leadeth to the repentance unto salvation; that, heartily detesting and loathing all my past abominations, and suing unto Thee for pardon with strong crying and tears, I may obtain mercy of Thee, Who despisest not the sighing of a broken, a contrite heart, through the intercession of Thy beloved SON JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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FOR ONE THAT IS NOT DULY GRIEVED FOR HIS SINS.

SPINCKES.

AGAINST Thee, O LORD, have I sinned, and done evil in Thy sight; and what shall I now say unto Thee? I desire to be duly humbled for all my undutiful carriage towards Thee; but to my shame, I find, that I am not so deeply affected with my guilt and folly, as I ought to be. I have highly offended Thee, and miserably endangered my own salvation; and though I see and know this, yet I find by sad experience, that I am not so thoroughly grieved at the sight of my sins, as were to be wished, and as I truly desire to be. I hope there is no sin that has its full dominion over me: none, that I do not unfeignedly long and strive to shake off, and free myself from it, so far as

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I shall be able (as also I most earnestly desire and beg the forgiveness of them all); only I am concerned and amazed that I should not be more sensibly touched at the consideration of them. Possess my soul, O Blessed GOD, with such an affecting perception of my wickedness, that I may continually lament and bewail it; that rivers of tears may run down mine eyes, because I have not kept Thy law; and may mourn in secret for my transgressions, confess mine iniquities, and be heartily sorry for my sins, even with a sorrow that may bring forth repentance to salvation, that is never to be repented of. O LORD, Who causeth water to flow out of the rock of stone, break this stony heart of mine, or rather take it away from me, and give me, instead of it, a heart of flesh, capable of those impressions that a guilty conscience is wont to make upon a returning penitent. Make me to loathe my sins, and

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myself because of them, and to humble my soul before Thee, and in the most submissive manner to supplicate Thy Grace and HOLY SPIRIT, to lead me in the way of life, and never to give over till I shall have obtained a blessing, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR REPENTANCE AND A HOLY LIFE.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

ALMIGHTY GOD, the fountain of holiness and felicity, Who by Thy Word and Thy Spirit dost conduct all Thy servants in the ways of peace and sanctity; inviting them by promises, and winning them by love; endearing them by necessities, and obliging them by the perpetual testimonies of Thy loving kindness; grant unto us so truly to repent us of our sins, so carefully to reform our

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errors, so diligently to watch over all our actions, so industriously to do all our duty, that we may never transgress Thy holy laws willingly; but that it may be the work of our lives to obey Thee, the joy of our souls to please Thee, the satisfaction of all our hopes, and the perfection of our desires, to live with Thee in the holiness of Thy kingdom of grace and glory, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR ONE WHO HAS TOO LONG DELAYED REPENTANCE.

SPINCKES.

O BLESSED and Holy LORD GOD, Who wouldest not that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance; be merciful to me, a guilty sinner, who have long neglected my duty to Thee, and mine own main interest; till my sins are

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gone over my head, and are as a sore burden, too heavy for me to bear: enter not into judgment with Thy servant; for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified: and if no man, not the best of men, and the most righteous, much less so vile a sinner as I have been. I have provoked Thy Divine Majesty, by a long series of wickedness; for which Thou mightest justly have long since cut me off, and given me my portion among the devils, and damned spirits. But Blessed be Thy Name, Thou hast exercised a great deal of patience and long-suffering towards me; and I hope it is not in vain, that Thou hast thus graciously borne with me; for I am now fully convinced of my folly, and the evil of my ways, and do repent and abhor myself in dust and ashes. O do not Thou abhor me too, nor shut up Thy bowels of compassion from me; behold me not as a sinner, but as one for whom CHRIST died, and as a penitent, hear-

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tily grieved for my past disobedience, and earnestly desirous both of Thy pardon and grace to walk more holily for the future. It is much too long that I have deferred my repentance and reformation; but by Thy blessing and assistance, I am fully resolved to delay it no longer: help me to put these good resolutions in practice, renouncing all my most beloved sins, and earnestly endeavouring to be upright and unblamable in all manner of conversation; that to-day, whilst it is called to-day, I may hear Thy voice, and never more dare to harden my heart against it. I know not what a day may bring forth, and, for this reason, am not willing to trust to to-morrow, when possibly it may be too late for me to think of repenting to salvation. Turn Thou me, good LORD, and so shall I be turned; but do it, I beseech Thee, immediately, and out of hand: turn me from all mine iniquities, and make me to serve Thee acceptably, with

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reverence and godly fear. Make me heartily ashamed of my undutifulness and disobedience hitherto, that I should dare to offend so good and gracious a GOD, and stir up my heart to serve Thee faithfully for the future; that, denying all ungodliness and worldly lusts, I may live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world. Loose me from all the bonds of my sins, and conduct me to everlasting life, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR PARDON.

BISHOP KEN.

O THOU FATHER of mercies, and GOD of all consolation, be merciful to me a miserable sinner.

LORD, remember all Thy gracious calls of sinners to repentance, all Thy protestations, that Thou delightest not in the death of him that dies,

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and that Thou wouldest have all to be saved.

LORD, remember all the exceeding great and precious promises, which Thou hast made to penitent sinners.

LORD, remember that Thy mercy is over all Thy works, that in mercy Thou delightest, and that all the holy Angels seeing Thee well pleased in the exercise of that mercy, rejoice at the conversion of a sinner; that the greater my sins are, the more will that mercy be magnified in my forgiveness.

LORD, remember that Thou didst so love the world, as to give Thy only beloved SON a ransom for it.

O Heavenly FATHER, Thou That sparedst not Thy only SON, but deliveredst Him for us, wilt Thou not with Him also freely give us all things, and if all things, wilt Thou not also give us the pardon of our sins?

O my GOD, I firmly believe Thou wilt; on that ransom my SAVIOUR hath paid for me, and on all Thy

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gracious promises of pardon, which for His sake Thou hast made to me, I wholly rely; here only is the sure and stedfast anchor of my soul, to which my faith and hope shall for ever adhere.

All this, LORD, do I plead, to implore Thy forgiveness.

Behold, LORD, though my failings are many, yet to the utmost of my power, I have confessed, and bewailed, and forsaken my transgressions. Behold, LORD, I come at Thy call, and I come weary and heavy laden with the burden of my sins, be it unto me according to Thy word. O Thou That art faithful and just, forgive me my sins, and cleanse me from all unrighteousness. LORD, do Thou in no wise cast me from Thee, but heal my backslidings, and love me freely, ease me of my burden, that I may find rest in Thee, and say unto my soul, be of good cheer, thy sins are forgiven thee.

O Heavenly FATHER, for Thine

own infinite mercies' sake, for Thy truth and promises' sake, for all the merits and sufferings of the SON of Thy love, in Whom Thou art always well pleased, pardon all my sins and failings, and receive me into Thy favour. *Amen*, O LORD GOD, *Amen*, *Amen*.

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Acts

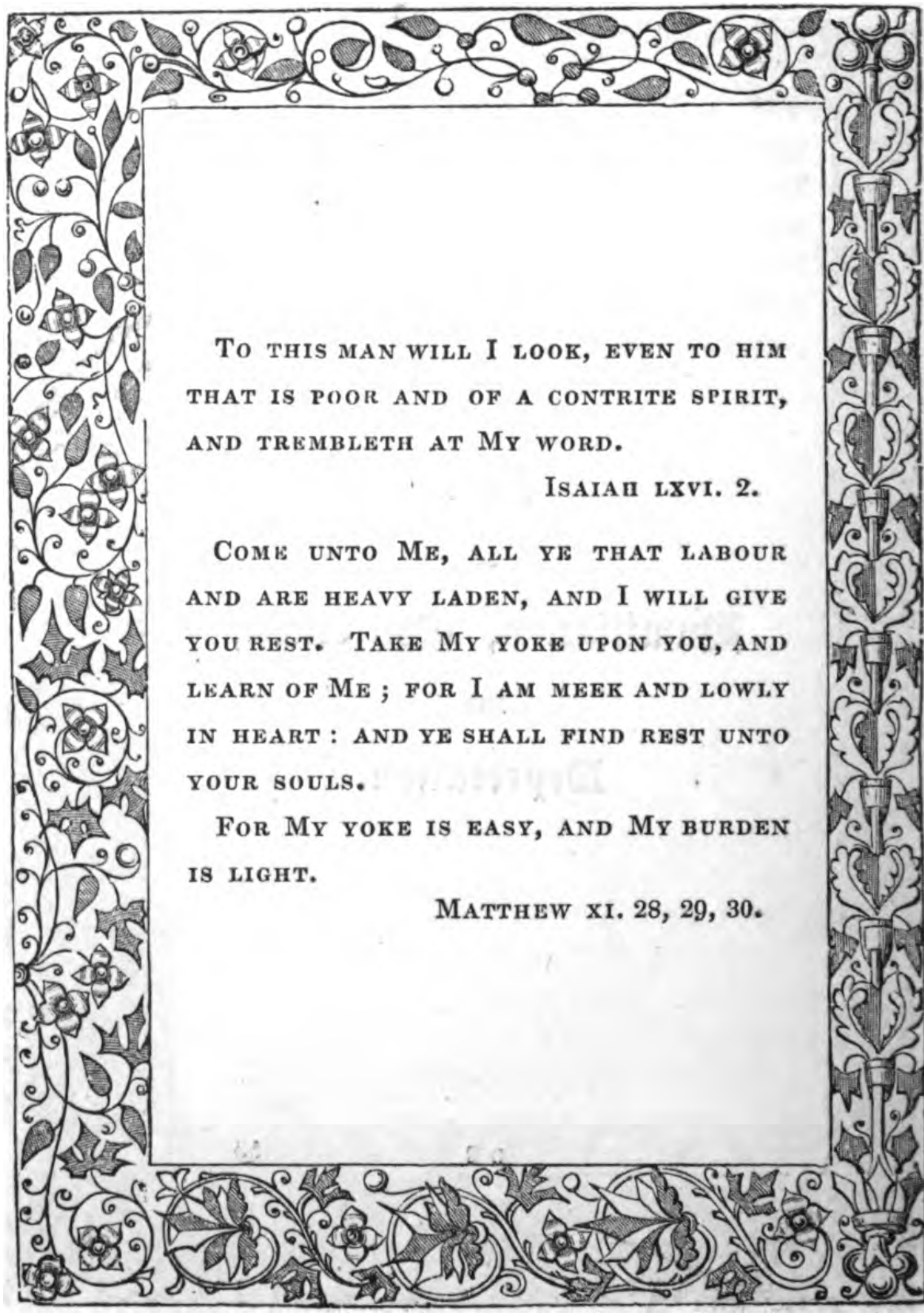
of

Humiliation, Contrition,

and

Deprecation.

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TO THIS MAN WILL I LOOK, EVEN TO HIM THAT IS POOR AND OF A CONTRITE SPIRIT, AND TREMBLETH AT MY WORD.

ISAIAH LXVI. 2.

COME UNTO ME, ALL YE THAT LABOUR AND ARE HEAVY LADEN, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST. TAKE MY YOKE UPON YOU, AND LEARN OF ME; FOR I AM MEEK AND LOWLY IN HEART: AND YE SHALL FIND REST UNTO YOUR SOULS.

FOR MY YOKE IS EASY, AND MY BURDEN IS LIGHT.

MATTHEW XI. 28, 29, 30.

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Acts
of
Humiliation, Contrition,
and
Deprecation.

AN ACT OF CONTRITION FOR A YOUNG PERSON.

BISHOP KEN.

MISERABLE wretch that I am, that I should begin so early to offend my CREATOR, and sin so much in so short a time!

LORD, I fear I never yet thoroughly considered how evil, and how bitter a thing it is to depart from Thee: O make me every day more and more sensible of the error of my ways, and of my own infinite vileness! Mise-

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rable wretch that I am, that ever I should commit those sins, which expose me to all the vials of Thy wrath, to all the curses of Thy law, to all Thy judgments temporal or spiritual, in this life, and to all the horrors and despair, and torments of the damned in the life to come! Miserable wretch that I am, that ever I should transgress that law of Thine, O GOD, which is so just, and holy, and good, and perfect, and so condescending to my infirmities; and in keeping of which there are so great, so unconceivable rewards! O that, with Mary Magdalen, I could weep much and love much, having so much to be forgiven.[1] O gracious LORD, look on me, as Thou didst on Peter, and let Thy compassionate look so pierce my heart, that I may weep bitterly for my sins![2] O LORD GOD, break this hard heart, for Thou only canst do it, and melt it into

[1] S. Luke vii. 38. [2] S. Luke xxii. 61.

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tears of contrition! Miserable wretch that I am, that I should sin so much, and yet grieve so little! Woe is me, miserable wretch, woe is me, that ever I should offend so indulgent, so liberal, so tender a FATHER! Woe is me that ever I should repay the infinite love, and the intolerable sufferings of my SAVIOUR for me, with nothing but those sins which occasioned those very sufferings. Woe is me, that ever I should grieve the HOLY SPIRIT, by rejecting of many of His good motions, from Whom only I derive grace and consolation? O LORD GOD, every slight worldly trouble is apt to draw back plenty of tears from mine eyes, but when I would weep for my sins, which are the greatest calamities that can possibly befal me, either my eyes are dry, or my tears too few, to bewail so many provocations!

O Blessed SPIRIT, instil true penitent sorrow into my soul, make my head waters, and my eyes fountains

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of tears, or do Thou supply the want of them with sighs and groans unutterable! But alas, I know all the tears I can possibly shed, can never wash away the least of my sins; it is Thy blood only, LORD, that can do it!

O Blessed SAVIOUR, how can I ever sufficiently lament the guilt of my sins, which was so great, that nothing but Thy own inestimable blood could expiate! O Heavenly FATHER, in the defect of my own tears, I offer Thee the blood of Thy own well-beloved SON: for His sake have mercy upon me. *Amen, Amen.*

AN ACT OF CONTRITION.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

MOST HOLY and ETERNAL GOD, I am not worthy to be called Thy servant; much less am I worthy to be

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Thy son; for I am the vilest of sinners and the worst of men; a lover of the things of the world, and a despiser of the things of GOD; proud and envious, lustful and intemperate, greedy of sin, and impatient of reproof; desirous to seem holy, and negligent of being so; transported with interest; fooled with presumption and false principles; disturbed with anger, with a peevish and unmortified spirit, and disordered by a whole body of sin and death. LORD, pardon all my sins for my sweetest SAVIOUR'S sake: Thou, Who didst die for me, Holy JESUS, save me and deliver me: reserve not my sins to be punished in the day of wrath and eternal vengeance; but wash away my sins, and blot them out of Thy remembrance, and purify my soul with the waters of repentance, and the blood of the cross; that, for what is past, Thy wrath may not come out against me; and, for the time to come, I may never provoke Thee to anger or to

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jealousy. O just and dear GOD, be pitiful and gracious to Thy servant. *Amen.*

AN ACT OF CONTRITION FOR RELAPSE INTO SIN.

BISHOP COSIN.

ALMIGHTY and most Merciful FATHER, Who for my many and grievous sins, those especially which I have committed against Thee, since the last solemn time of my humiliation and repentance, mightest most justly have cut me off in the midst of my days; but in the multitude of Thy mercies hast hitherto spared me; Accept, I most heartily beseech Thee, my unfeigned sorrow for all my former transgressions, and grant that I may never so presume on Thy mercy, as to despise the riches of Thy goodness, but that Thy forbearance and long-suffering may lead me to re-

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pentance, and amendment of my sinful life, to Thy honour and glory, and my final acquittance and absolution at the last day, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

ON RELAPSING INTO SIN.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O MERCIFUL GOD, Thou hast showed me much mercy, and done great things for me; and as I was returning, instead of thankfulness, I wandered out of my way from Thee, into a foul and a strange path. There Thou madest me see both my folly and my weakness; LORD, make me ever see them, ever sorry for them. O LORD, for my SAVIOUR'S sake, forgive me the folly, and strengthen me against the weakness for ever. LORD, forgive all my sins, and this; and make me by Thy grace Thy most true, humble,

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and faithful servant all the days of my life; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

UPON A RELAPSE INTO SIN.

SPINCKES.

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, Just and true, Thou only Sovereign of the world, on Whom is all my dependence, and from Whom is all my hope and expectation; I am ashamed, and blush to appear before Thee, seeing I have of late so highly offended Thy Divine Majesty. I know not how to lift up mine eyes unto Heaven; but am forced with the humble publican, to smite upon my breast, and call upon Thee to have mercy upon me a sinner. I have sinned against Thee from time to time, and aggravated my sins with many heinous and dreadful circumstances, thereby to render them so much the more provoking;

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and though I have resolved and promised, and vowed an amendment, yet have I again broken my faith, and relapsed into my former guilt, and thereby cut myself off from all right to Thy promises. And what can I now plead for myself? From the bar of Thy justice, I fly to the throne of Thy mercy, beseeching Thee to be favourable unto me, because Thou delightest in mercy; and not let me be miserable, though I have taken the ready road to misery; though I have perverted my ways, and run upon destruction with mine eyes open. And though I cannot say I have quite forgotten Thee, my GOD, yet I must acknowledge, to my shame and sorrow, that I have offended Thee most heinously, by sinning against Thee, when I knew myself in Thy Presence, and when I was fully convinced how evil and bitter a thing sin is, how extremely displeasing to Thee, and of what pernicious consequence to myself. My conscience ac-

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cuses me, my heart condemns me; and Thou, Who art greater than my heart, and knowest all things, mayest justly stop Thine ears, when I cry unto Thee in the anguish of my soul. I have sinned against Heaven, and before Thee, and am no more worthy to be called Thy son: I have sinned against the light of Thy Gospel, and Thine infinite love to me; against the terrors of Thy threatnings, the charms of Thy mercy, the rebukes of Thy SPIRIT, and the checks of my own conscience, and my solemnest vows and engagements. Yet is not my sin too great for Thee to pardon, or remove from me, that I never more repeat it; if Thou wilt, Thou canst make me whole again: and the more my wickedness has abounded, the more therefore let Thy grace and good will abound. Absolve me from the guilt, deliver me from the power, cleanse me from the pollution, save me from the punishment, of this, and all other my offences; reconcile me

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to Thyself here, and crown me with immortal glory hereafter; through JESUS CHRIST Thy SON, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

AN ACT OF DEPRECATION.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O LORD our GOD, Whose Power is infinite, Whose Glory is supreme, Whose Mercy is without measure, Whose Goodness is unspeakable; despise not Thy returning servant, who earnestly begs for pardon and to be reconciled to Thee: sanctify, O GOD, my body and soul, search out my spirit, and cast out all iniquity from within me; all weak principles and false arguings, every impure lust and filthy desire, all pride and envy, all hypocrisy and lying, all inordinate love of this world and base covetousness, all hardness of heart and unrelenting dispositions, all peevishness

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and hasty anger, all mindfulness of injuries and revengefulness, all blasphemy and irreligion; and every motion of soul and body, which can withdraw me from Thee, and is against Thy will and commandment.

Gracious FATHER, give me perfect pardon for what is past, and a perfect repentance of all my sins, that for the time to come I may, with a pure spirit, with a broken and contrite heart, with sanctified lips and holy desires, serve Thee religiously; walk humbly with my GOD; converse justly and charitably with men; and possess my soul in patience and holiness, and my body in sanctification and honour; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

AN ACT OF DEPRECATION.

KING EDWARD THE SIXTH'S PRIMER.

OH bountiful JESU, Oh sweet SAVIOUR, Oh CHRIST the SON of GOD,

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have pity upon me, mercifully hear me, and despise not my prayers. Thou hast created me of nothing; Thou hast redeemed me from the bondage of sin, death, and hell, neither with gold or silver, but with Thy most precious body once offered upon the cross, and Thine own blood shed once for all, for my ransom; therefore cast me not away, whom Thou by Thy great wisdom hast made; despise me not whom Thou hast redeemed with such a precious treasure: nor let my wickedness destroy that which Thy goodness hath builded. Now whilst I live, O JESU, have mercy on me, for if I die out of Thy favour, it will be too late afterward to call for Thy mercy; whilst I have time to repent, look upon me with Thy merciful eyes, as Thou didst vouchsafe to look upon Peter Thine Apostle; that I may bewail my sinful life, and obtain Thy favour, and die therein. I acknowledge that if Thou shouldest deal with

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me according to strict justice, I have deserved everlasting death. Therefore I appeal to Thy high Throne of Mercy, trusting to obtain GOD's favour, not for my merits, but for Thy merits, O JESU, Who hast given Thyself an acceptable sacrifice to Thy FATHER; to appease His wrath, and to bring all sinners truly repenting, and amending their evil life, into His favour again. Accept me, O LORD, among the number of them that shall be saved; forgive my sins: give me grace to lead an innocent and godly life; grant me Thy Heavenly Wisdom, inspire my heart with faith, hope, and charity; give me grace to be humble in prosperity, patient in adversity, obedient unto my rulers, faithful unto them that trust me, dealing truly with all men; to live chastely, to abhor adultery, fornication, and all uncleanness; to do good after my power unto all men; that Thy Name may be glorified in

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me, during this present life, and that I afterward may obtain everlasting life, through Thy mercy and the merits of Thy passion. *Amen.*

FOR MERCY IN THE HOUR OF DEATH.

BISHOP WILSON.

O BLESSED JESU, Who hadst compassion on the thief, even at the hour of death, have mercy upon me, who now repent of all my misdoings. Suffer not the gates of Paradise to be shut against me when I die, Thou That hast opened the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.

Restore my soul at the great day to life eternal.

Give me the patience of Job, the faith of Abraham, the courage of Peter, and the comfort of Paul, and a true submission to Thy will.

Apply to my soul all the whole-

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some medicines of Thy passion, death, and resurrection, against the powers of Satan, against all unreasonable fears and despair, and ease my fearful conscience.

Hear the prayers of Thy Church for me, and for all in my condition, for Thine own merits' and mercies' sake. *Amen.*

AGAINST PESTILENCE.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

DELIVER me, O LORD, from all my offences, and make me not a rebuke unto the foolish. Take, I humbly beseech Thee, Thy plague away from Thy people, for we begin to be consumed by means of Thy heavy hand. And for JESUS CHRIST His sake, lay neither me nor mine under this uncomfortable disease. *Amen.*

O LORD, deliver me from the snare of the hunter, and from the noisome

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pestilence; O defend me under Thy wings, and keep me safe under Thy feathers, that I may not be afraid for any terror by night, nor for the arrow that flieth by day; for the pestilence that walketh in the darkness, nor for the sickness that destroyeth in the noon-day. Though thousands fall beside me, and ten thousands at my right hand, yet let it not come near me, even for JESUS CHRIST His sake. *Amen.*

O LORD, Thou art my hope, I beseech Thee let no evil happen unto me, neither let any plague come nigh my dwelling; but give Thine Angels charge over me to keep me in all my ways, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer. *Amen.*

O let the sorrowful sighing of them whom Thou hast visited come before Thee; and according to the greatness both of Thy power and mercy, preserve Thou them that are appointed to die, even for JESUS CHRIST His sake. *Amen.*

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IN TIME OF FAMINE.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O GOD, Heavenly FATHER, Who, by Thy SON JESUS CHRIST, hast promised to all them who seek Thy kingdom, and the righteousness thereof, all things necessary for their bodily sustenance, Mercifully behold the afflictions of Thy people, graciously pardon our sins, and remove Thy judgments. O visit the earth and prepare corn for the inhabitants thereof; crown the year with Thy goodness, and let Thy clouds drop fatness, that we may in due time enjoy the kindly fruits of the earth, and not be confounded in these perilous times; but in the days of dearth have enough, and with charitable hearts and hands relieve the necessities of Thy poor and distressed children.

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Grant this, O LORD, for the riches of Thy goodness in JESUS CHRIST our SAVIOUR. *Amen.*

IN DANGER OF ENEMIES.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O MOST gracious GOD and loving FATHER, we have felt Thy manifold mercies, no nation more; and we have committed sins against Thee; few nations greater. Enter not into judgment with us, O LORD, but for CHRIST and His mercy's sake, pacify Thine anger, and save us from the malice and cruelty of our enemies. They are our crying sins that have called them upon us. Let it be an addition to Thy wonted mercy, to restrain their fury. For this end, LORD, put Thy bridle into their mouths, and Thy bit between their teeth. Frustrate their designs, and

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let them find no way in our seas, nor any path in our floods; but scatter them with Thy tempest, and follow them with all Thy storms; that we being delivered by Thy hand, may bless and honour Thy Name, devoutly serving Thee all our days, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

IN TIMES OF PERSECUTION.

DR. HICKES.

GRANT, O LORD, Who art the strength of all that put their trust in Thee, that Thy grace may sustain me against being shaken from Thy faith and worship, by the dread of men, or rage of devils: support me under the present persecution, and preserve me in the strictest obedience to all Thy commandments. Let no temptations prevail on me to betray

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Thy truth, or forsake Thy afflicted Church; but give me grace to glory in the Cross of CHRIST, and cheerfully to follow the Captain of our salvation, Who was made perfect through sufferings. Let me not faint, or be discouraged, at the outward prosperity of our persecutors; but give me grace to pity, and pray for them, and to return them good for evil. To Thy persecuted truth, and those faithful Ministers who undauntedly profess it, let me constantly adhere; their holy offices let me daily attend, their doctrine and example patiently observe and follow; that, with them, I may through many tribulations and persecutions, enter into the Kingdom of Heaven, through the merits of JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

IN A STORM OF THUNDER, LIGHTNING, ETC.

NEW MANUAL.

O GREAT and Glorious GOD, Who sendest forth Thy commandment upon earth, and Whose Word runneth very swiftly, how wonderful art Thou in Thy works, how terrible in Thy doings towards the children of men! Thou, That makest the thunder, and causest the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth, making lightnings for the rain, and bringing the winds out of Thy treasures,—fire and hail, snow and vapours, wind and storms, fulfil Thy word. Thy voice, O LORD, is a glorious voice, but frail and sinful man cannot hear it without trembling and fear. Be Thou,

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O LORD, our Protector in all danger, and preserve us from the terrors of the storm. O let it not be a messenger of Thy wrath, but rather let it minister in Thy mercy to the refreshment of the air, and the fruitfulness of the earth.

We know, O LORD, that Thy judgments are just, and that we for our sins do worthily deserve to be punished, for we have broken Thy covenant and neglected Thy commandment; but, O LORD, we are heartily sorry for our misdoings, and earnestly desire to repent and turn unto Thee. Thy voice, O LORD, is a glorious voice; when Thou speakest, O let not man be inattentive, but let us all awaken from carnal security, and arise from the sleep of sin and death. Let not the salutary impressions we now feel of Thy power, and glory, and goodness, wear away, but make them to sink deep into our hearts, and by the operation of Thy HOLY SPIRIT effectually to work in us such a fear

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and love of Thee that we, loving Thee above all things, may above all things fear to offend Thee, so that in the great and terrible day, when the elements shall melt with fervent heat, we may, through the merits of the full, perfect, and sufficient satisfaction made upon the cross for all our sins, mercifully be pardoned, and for our Blessed SAVIOUR'S sake graciously accepted. *Amen, Amen.*

DEPRECATION OF A PARTICULAR EVIL.

NEW MANUAL.

O GOD, our refuge and strength, Who art a present help in trouble, look with pity upon me, I most humbly beseech Thee. Thou dost not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men; to Thee, therefore, O

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my GOD, do I direct my supplication, and look up. I know, O LORD, that Thy judgments are right, and that Thou of very faithfulness dost cause us to be troubled; upon Thee, therefore, and the multitude of Thy mercies in CHRIST JESUS my LORD, do I rest all my hopes and all my fears. O let it be Thy good pleasure, Blessed LORD, I humbly and earnestly pray Thee, to turn from me the evils most justly due unto my sins: nevertheless, not as I will, but as Thou wilt: Thou, LORD, correctest in mercy, and for my profit; let Thy blessed will, therefore, be my choice and satisfaction; and in all the dispensations of Thy Providence give me the consolations and support of Thy HOLY SPIRIT; and if Thou rather seest fit to visit me with the evil I so justly fear, grant me to feel and know that in improving Thy fatherly corrections to the gracious ends for which only they are sent, these light afflictions which are but for a moment, shall

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work out for me a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, through the all prevailing merits and mediation of my Blessed SAVIOUR and REDEEMER, JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*



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Prayers

for

Gifts, Graces, &c.

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ASK, AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN YOU; SEEK, AND YE SHALL FIND; KNOCK, AND IT SHALL BE OPENED UNTO YOU:

FOR EVERY ONE THAT ASKETH RECEIVETH; AND HE THAT SEEKETH FINDETH; AND TO HIM THAT KNOCKETH IT SHALL BE OPENED.

OR WHAT MAN IS THERE OF YOU, WHOM IF HIS SON ASK BREAD, WILL HE GIVE HIM A STONE?

OR IF HE ASK A FISH, WILL HE GIVE HIM A SERPENT?

IF YE THEN, BEING EVIL, KNOW HOW TO GIVE GOOD GIFTS UNTO YOUR CHILDREN, HOW MUCH MORE SHALL YOUR FATHER WHICH IS IN HEAVEN, GIVE GOOD THINGS TO THEM THAT ASK HIM?

S. MATTHEW VII. 7—11.

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Prayers
for
Gifts, Graces, &c.

AT WAKING.

LAKE.

AT the Name of JESUS, GOD Blessed for ever, let every knee bow, both of things in Heaven, things in earth, and things under the earth; glory be to Thee, O LORD Most High.

GOD be in my head, and in my understanding, that I may know in this my day, the things which do concern my everlasting life.

GOD be in my eyes, and in my seeing, that they may be always looking up to Thy Mercy-seat, and that

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they be not as so many casements to let in vanity.

GOD be in my mouth, and in my speaking, to guard and fence it from idle words, and that it may at no time be a door to let in folly.

GOD be in my ears, and in my hearing, that they may be always open to sound and wholesome counsels, and deaf to corrupt and filthy communications.

GOD be in my heart, and in my thinking, to preserve it from being a sink of uncleanness, and that it may never be suffered either to flatter me or deceive others.

GOD be at my end, and at my departing, that so my death may be precious in the sight of the LORD, with Whom I pray that I may live for evermore. *Amen.*

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FOR THE MORNING.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY FATHER, Great GOD of all the world, Who dwellest in the light to which no man can approach; in Thy Presence there is no night, in the light of Thy Countenance there is perpetual day; I, Thy servant, whom Thou hast preserved this night, who bless and glorify Thee this day, who live by Thy Power, who desire to walk by Thy Laws, to be blessed by Thy Providence, to be defended by Thy Almighty Hand, humbly pray unto Thee, that this day, and all the days of my life, may be holy and peaceable: send Thy HOLY SPIRIT, the Spirit of peace, to be the guide of my way, the guard of my soul and body. Grant that all the chances and accidents of this day may be healthful to my body and

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profitable to my soul; and that I may spend the remaining portion of my life in blessing, and peace, and holiness. Make Thou the latter end of my days to be Christian, without shame, and without torment; and when I shall appear before Thy dreadful seat of judgment, grant that I may not be confounded, but may stand upright in the congregation of the Saints, acquitted by the death of CHRIST, justified by His Resurrection, pardoned by His Sentence, saved by His Mercy, that I may rejoice in His Salvation, and sing Thy praises for ever and ever. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR THE MORNING.

LAKE.

GLORY be to GOD on high, on earth peace, good will towards men. I praise Thee; I bless Thee; I worship Thee; I glorify Thee; I give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory and good-

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ness, O LORD GOD, Heavenly King, GOD the FATHER ALMIGHTY: for Thy SON JESUS CHRIST, manifested in the flesh, to destroy the works of the devil; and Who is the Fountain of all those mercies, both spiritual and temporal, so freely and plentifully bestowed on me, Thy most unworthy creature, from time to time; particularly, that Thou hast protected me this last night from all perils ghostly and bodily, and brought me to see the light of another day, whereas Thou mightest justly have suffered me to sleep in death by reason of those manifold and heinous sins wherewith I have from time to time offended Thy Divine Majesty. I have sinned! and what shall I say unto Thee, O Thou Preserver of man? I have left undone those things which I ought to have done; and I have done those things which I ought not to have done, and there is no health in me: but Thou, O LORD, have mercy upon me, most

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miserable offender! O Thou, Who desirest not the death of a sinner, but rather that he should turn from his wickedness and live, have mercy upon me! Spare me and restore me, who do here in all humility confess my faults, and do desire to be penitent for them. Have regard to Thy blessed SON, Who is our Advocate with Thee, O FATHER, and the Propitiation for all our sins, for Whose sake mercifully grant unto me true repentance, and the assistance of Thy HOLY SPIRIT, which may teach and enable me to please Thee hereafter in all things, to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live godly, righteously, and soberly in this present world, that so at last I may come to Thine eternal joy, through the same JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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PRAYER FOR THE MORNING.

BISHOP ANDREWES.

GLORY be to Thee, O LORD, glory be to Thee: glory to Thee Who hast given me sleep to refresh my weakness, and to alleviate the labours of this fragile flesh.

That this day, and every day, we may pass in the perfecting of holiness, in peace, health, and innocence,

Grant us, O LORD.

That the Angel of peace, our faithful guide, the guardian of our souls and bodies, may encamp round about us, and continually suggest what is needful for our salvation,

Grant us, O LORD.

The pardon and remission of all our sins and all our transgressions,

Grant us, O LORD.

To our souls what is good and profitable, and to the world peace,

Grant us, O LORD.

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That we may accomplish the remainder of our lives in penitence and godly fear, in health of body and peace of mind,

Grant us, O LORD.

Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, that we may think on these things and do them,

Grant us, O LORD.

A Christian termination of our lives, free from sin and shame, and, if such be Thy pleasure, free from pain, and a good account of ourselves before the dread and terrible tribunal of our LORD JESUS CHRIST,

Grant us, O LORD.

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PRAYER FOR THE MORNING.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, FATHER of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, the GOD of mercy and comfort, with reverence and fear, with humble confidence and strong desires, I approach to the Throne of Grace, begging of Thee mercy and protection, pardon and salvation. O my GOD, I am a sinner, but sorrowful and repenting: Thou art justly offended at me, but yet Thou art my LORD and my FATHER, merciful and gracious. Be pleased to blot all my sins out of Thy remembrance, and heal my soul, that I may never more sin against Thee. LORD, open my eyes, that I may see my own infirmities, and watch against them; and my own follies, that I may amend them: and be pleased to give me perfect understanding in the way of godliness, that I may walk in it all

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the days of my pilgrimage. Give me a spirit diligent in the works of my calling, cheerful and zealous in religion, fervent and frequent in my prayers, charitable and useful in my conversation; give me a healthful and a chaste body, a pure and a holy soul, a sanctified and an humble spirit; and let my body, and soul, and spirit, be preserved unblameable to the coming of the LORD JESUS. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR THE MORNING.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

O MERCIFUL LORD GOD, Heavenly FATHER, I render most high laud, praise, and thanks, unto Thee, that Thou hast preserved me both at this night, and all the time and days of my life hitherto, under Thy protection: and hast suffered me to live

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until this present hour: and I beseech Thee heartily, Thou wilt vouchsafe to receive me this day, and the residue of my whole life from henceforth, unto Thy tuition; ruling and governing me with Thy HOLY SPIRIT, that all manner of darkness, of misbelief, infidelity, and carnal lusts and affections may be utterly chased, and driven out of my heart; and that I may be justified and saved, both body and soul, through a right and perfect faith; and so walk in the light of Thy most godly truth, to Thy glory and praise, and to the profit and advancement of my neighbour, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD and SAVIOUR. *Amen.*

FOR THE MORNING.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

MOST Holy and Eternal GOD, LORD and SOVEREIGN of all the creatures,

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I humbly present to Thy Divine Majesty, myself, my soul and body, my thoughts and my words, my actions and intentions, my passions and my sufferings, to be disposed by Thee to Thy glory; to be blessed by Thy Providence; to be guided by Thy Counsel; to be sanctified by Thy SPIRIT; and, afterwards, that my body and soul may be received into glory: for nothing can perish which is under Thy custody: and the enemy of souls cannot devour what is Thy portion, nor take it out of Thy hands. This day, O LORD, and all the days of my life, I dedicate to Thy honour, and the actions of my calling, to the uses of grace, and the religion of all my days to be united to the merits and intercession of my Holy SAVIOUR, JESUS; that in Him, and for Him, I may be pardoned and accepted. *Amen.*

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THANKSGIVING FOR THE MERCIES OF THE DAY PAST; AND PRAYER FOR PARDON, GRACE, AND PROTECTION DURING THE NIGHT.

HELE.

BLESSED be Thy holy Name, O LORD, my GOD, for Thy gracious protection and preservation of me the day past; for defending me from innumerable evils to which I have been exposed; and for continuing to me the comforts of this life, and the hope of life everlasting.

O Heavenly FATHER! forgive, I humbly beseech Thee, for JESUS CHRIST's sake, whatsoever Thou hast seen amiss in me this day, in my thoughts, words, or actions; and assist me with Thy HOLY SPIRIT in making it henceforward my sincere endeavour to resist and conquer every

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evil inclination within me, and every temptation from without.

That which I know not, teach Thou me: instruct me in all the particulars of my duty, both towards Thee, and towards men; and give me grace always to think and to do those things that are good, and well-pleasing in Thy sight, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD.

And now, O LORD, I go to my bed, as to my grave; and know not but that I may awake in another world: but whether I live or die, I commend myself to Thy mercy and goodness. O Thou Keeper of Israel, That neither slumberest nor sleepest, be graciously pleased to watch over me this night. Keep me by Thy grace from all works of darkness; and defend me by Thy power from all dangers. Grant me comfortable and refreshing sleep, such as may fit me for the duties of the day following. And, LORD, make me ever mindful of that time when I shall lie down in the

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dust: and because I know neither the day, nor the hour of my Master's coming, grant me grace that I may be always ready; that I may never live in such a state as I shall fear to die in; but that whether I live, I may live unto the LORD; or whether I die, I may die unto the LORD; so that living or dying I may be Thine, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR THE EVENING.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

ETERNAL GOD, Almighty FATHER of men and Angels, by Whose Care and Providence I am preserved and blessed, comforted, and assisted, I humbly beg of Thee to pardon the sins and follies of this day, the weakness of my services, and the strength of my passions, the rashness of my words, and the vanity and evil of my

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actions, O Just and Holy GOD, how long shall I confess my sins, and pray against them, and yet fall under them! O let it be so no more; let me never return to the follies of which I am ashamed, which bring sorrow and death, and Thy displeasure worse than death. Give me a command over my evil inclinations, and a perfect hatred of sin, and a love to Thee above all the desires of this world. Be pleased to bless and preserve me this night from all sin, and all violence of chance, and the malice of the spirits of darkness: watch over me in my sleep; and whether I sleep or wake, let me be Thy servant. Be Thou first and last in all my thoughts, and the guide and continual assistance of all my actions. Preserve my body, pardon the sin of my soul, and sanctify my spirit; let me always live holily, and justly, and soberly; and, when I die, receive my soul into Thy hands, O Holy and ever-blessed JESUS; that I may lie in Thy bosom,

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and long for Thy coming, and hear Thy blessed sentence at Doomsday, and behold Thy Face, and live in Thy Kingdom, singing praises to GOD for ever and ever. *Amen.*

FOR THE EVENING.

LAKE.

ALMIGHTY GOD, FATHER of all mercies, I Thine unworthy servant do give Thee most humble and hearty thanks for all Thy goodness and loving-kindness bestowed on me. Above all, for the redemption of the world by our LORD JESUS CHRIST; in Him, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory; for all the blessings of this life; for Thy creating, and for Thy protection of me all my days; and particularly, that this day past Thou hast preserved me in my health, and assisted me in my devotions. (Or prospered me in my

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affairs.) Give me, I beseech Thee, a due sense of these Thy mercies, and grace and power to express it by an obedience to all Thy commandments. Go on to preserve, and take me into Thy protection this night: lighten my darkness, O LORD, and by Thy great mercy defend me from all perils and dangers of this night, for the love of Thy only Son JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR THE EVENING.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY FATHER, Who givest the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, vouchsafe to receive me, this night and ever, into Thy favour and protection, defending me from all sad casualties and evil accidents, ruling and governing me with Thy HOLY SPIRIT, that

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all darkness and hurtful ignorance, all infidelity and weakness of heart, all inordinate fear and carnal affections, may be removed far from me; that I, being justified by the mercies of GOD in our LORD JESUS, may be sanctified by Thy Spirit, and glorified by Thy infinite mercies in the day of the glorious appearing of our LORD and SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

FOR THE EVENING.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

VISIT, I beseech Thee, O LORD, this habitation with Thy mercy, and me with Thy grace and salvation. Let Thy Holy Angels pitch their tents round about and dwell here, that no illusion of the night may abuse me, the spirits of darkness may not come near to hurt me, no evil or sad accident oppress me; and let the eternal Spirit of the Father dwell in my soul

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and body, filling every corner of my heart with light and grace. Let no deed of darkness overtake me; and let Thy blessing, most blessed GOD, be upon me for ever, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR THE EVENING.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

O MERCIFUL LORD GOD, Heavenly FATHER, whether we sleep or wake, live or die, we are always Thine. Wherefore I beseech Thee heartily, that Thou wilt vouchsafe to take care and charge of me, and not to suffer me to perish in the works of darkness; but to kindle the light of Thy countenance in my heart; that Thy godly knowledge may daily increase in me, through a right and pure faith; and that I may always be found to walk and live after Thy will and pleasure, through JESUS CHRIST, our LORD and SAVIOUR. *Amen.*

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EVENING PRAYER.

BISHOP COSIN.

O LORD, our Heavenly FATHER, Almighty and Everliving GOD, by Whose Providence both the day and the night are governed: vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, as Thou hast this day preserved me by Thy goodness, so still this night to shadow me under the blessed wing of Thy most mighty protection, and to cover me with Thy heavenly mercy, that neither the princes of darkness may have any power over me, nor the works of darkness overwhelm me; but that I being armed with Thy defence, may be preserved from all adversities that may hurt the body, and from all wicked thoughts which may assault and defile the soul, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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A PRAYER FOR THE EVENING.

BISHOP COSIN.

MERCIFUL LORD, Who of Thine abundant goodness towards us, hast made the day to travel in, and ordained the night wherein to take our rest: grant me such rest of body, that I may continually have a waking soul, to watch for the time when our LORD shall appear to deliver us from this mortal life. Let no vain or wandering fancy trouble me: let my ghostly enemies have no power over me, but let my mind be set wholly upon Thy Presence, to love, and fear, and rest in Thee alone: that being refreshed with a moderate and sober sleep, I may rise up again with cheerful strength and gladness, to serve Thee in all good works, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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FOR GRACE AND PROTECTION DURING SLEEP.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O LORD, give me that grace that I may remember Thee upon my bed, and think upon Thee when I am waking. Thou hast been my helper; therefore under the shadow of Thy wings I will hope to pass through the darkness of this night, in the comfort of JESUS CHRIST, my LORD and only SAVIOUR. *Amen.*

FOR THE GIFTS OF GRACE.

BISHOP COSIN.

ALMIGHTY GOD, the Fountain of all goodness, and the well-spring of divine graces, Who hast vouchsafed to regenerate me, being born in sin, by

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water and the HOLY GHOST in the blessed laver of Baptism, thereby receiving me into the number of Thy children, and making me an heir of everlasting life, in the communion of Thy glorious Saints: strengthen me, I beseech Thee, O LORD, with that blessed Spirit of Thine, the Ghostly Comforter; and daily increase in me Thy manifold gifts of grace, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and ghostly strength, the spirit of knowledge and true godliness, and fulfil me, O LORD, with the spirit of Thy holy fear, even through Him Who hath sent down the Spirit upon His Church, JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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A PETITION FOR GRACE IN GENERAL.

BISHOP KEN.

O LORD GOD, I have sworn and I desire to perform it, that I will keep Thy righteous judgments. But alas! I am able of myself to do nothing that is good, not so much as to think one good thought: and I no sooner shall rise from my knees, but I fear I shall be tempted to those very sins I have now so solemnly renounced, and those temptations will certainly overcome me, unless Thou, LORD, dost seasonably interpose Thy grace to withhold me. But I can do all things through Thee strengthening me: do Thou then, O blessed SAVIOUR, perfect Thy strength in my weakness, for in Thee only is my trust. O my GOD, Thou hast promised to give Thy HOLY SPIRIT to those that ask it.

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Behold, LORD, I do humbly, I do earnestly ask Thy HOLY SPIRIT now of Thee; O fulfil Thy gracious promise to me; O vouchsafe me that Holy Spirit I pray for, to purify my corrupt nature, to strengthen my weakness, to comfort me in troubles, to support me in discouragements, to succour me in temptations, and to assist me in all parts of my duty, that I may ever hereafter live in Thy fear, and in constant, sincere, and universal obedience to all Thy righteous laws. Thou, O Searcher of hearts, knowest the sin (or sins) I am most inclined to, [here name it, or them] and herein will lie my greatest danger of backsliding: but, O my GOD, I beg a double portion of Thy invisible aid against it, (or them). Hold Thou up my goings in Thy paths, that my footsteps slip not: O work in me that victorious faith, by which I may overcome the world, the Devil, and my own corrupt nature. True it is, O LORD GOD, that there are many sins

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which upon examination, I find, through Thy grace, I have not yet committed, and therefore not unto me, LORD, but to Thy Name be the glory; but alas! there is in my corrupt nature so great a proneness to evil, so great a curiosity to try what sin is, that without Thy restraining grace, every temptation when I shall have more age and liberty, and opportunity to enforce it, will be apt to draw me from my obedience, and to overthrow all my present resolutions. But my help standeth in Thee, O Great Creator, Who hast made heaven and earth, and I commit my soul to Thy keeping. O Thou that art faithful as well as Almighty, keep that safe which is committed to Thy trust; watch over me that I may not be beguiled by the deceitfulness of sin, or betrayed by my own treacherous heart, or surprised by my ghostly enemies; and give me grace to watch and to pray incessantly myself, lest I enter into

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temptation. Hear, LORD, from heaven, and succour me for the alone merits of JESUS my SAVIOUR. *Amen, Amen.*

PETITIONS FOR PARTICULAR GRACES.

BISHOP KEN.

O THAT my ways, LORD, were made so direct, that I might keep Thy statutes, for then shall I not be confounded, when I have respect unto all Thy Commandments. Vouchsafe me Thy HOLY SPIRIT, therefore, O LORD GOD, to work in me whatever is well-pleasing in Thy sight, that for the time to come, I may bring forth fruits meet for repentance. O let it be Thy good pleasure to create in me a saving knowledge of Thee and of my duty, justifying faith, true sanctifying grace, and a filial fear of Thee, a constant desire of pleasing Thee,

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and a great tenderness of offending Thee!—LORD, create in me a penitent heart, a resigned will, and mortified affections, an habitual mindfulness of Thy Presence, and a steady devotion in my prayers, sincere intentions, and zeal for Thy glory, perseverance in all holy purposes, and constancy in all trials and temptations. LORD, create in me a reverential awe of Thy Name, a delight in Thy service, a secret regard to Thy day and house of prayer, and a great attention to Thy Word; a daily care of my time, and diligence in my studies. LORD, make me chaste and temperate, humble and willing to be advised, and patient of reproof; and create in me a cheerful and meek, a contented and considerate, a quiet and peaceful spirit.

LORD, bless me with health and competency of living, with a good understanding, a retentive memory, and a ready apprehension; and with such a measure of temporal good

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things, as Thou seest fit for me, and give me grace to make a right use of all those blessings I have already received. LORD, purify my thoughts, bridle my tongue, guide all my actions, guard all my senses, stop my ears, and turn away my eyes from sin and vanity. LORD, give me grace to be just in all my dealings, to do to all men as I would they should do to me, to be subject to my parents, and to all my superiors, to the Queen as supreme, and to all civil magistrates, to the Pastors of Thy Church, and to all whom Thy Providence hath set over me: O grant that I may tender due honour and obedience to them all in their several stations. LORD, make me willing to forgive injuries, and unwilling to offer any; make me grateful to my benefactors, friendly to my equals, condescending to my inferiors, compassionate to the afflicted, charitable to the poor according to my ability, a lover of good men and kind to my enemies, and

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give me grace to keep always a conscience void of offence towards Thee, and towards men, and to continue in the Communion of the Church without wavering. O Merciful GOD, keep Thy servant from all wilful, deliberate, or presumptuous sins, and let no wickedness have dominion over me. From stubbornness and pride, idleness and sloth, intemperance and youthful lusts, inconstancy and lying, good LORD, deliver me. From irreligious principles and false teachers, unruly passions and violent temptations, from contracting vicious habits or taking pleasure in sin, from profaneness and ill company, envy and malice, detraction and uncharitableness, good LORD, deliver me. From the errors and vices of the age, and all remanent affections to sin, from the sin (or sins) my corrupt nature is most inclined to, [here name it or them]; from whatsoever is offensive to Thee, or destructive to my own soul, good LORD, deliver me.

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Hear me, O Heavenly FATHER, and conform my whole life to the example of my Blessed SAVIOUR. *Amen.*

A SHORT PETITION FOR GOOD GIFTS.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

GIVE unto me, O LORD, I humbly beseech Thee, a wise, a sober, a patient understanding, a devout, a religious, a courageous heart; chaste and temperate reins and thought; a soul full of devotion to do Thee service, strength against all temptations, especially the temptations of — &c., through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN GRACES.

BISHOP COSIN. *(From the Primer.)*

GRANT me, Gracious LORD, a pure intention of my heart, and a stedfast regard to Thy glory in all my actions. Possess my mind continually with Thy presence, and so fill it with Thy love, that my only desire may be, to rest in the arms of Thy protection.

Be Thou a light unto mine eyes, music to mine ears, sweetness to my taste, and a full contentment to my heart. Be Thou my sunshine in the day, my food at the table, my repose in the night, my clothing in nakedness, and my succour in all necessities.

LORD JESU, I give Thee my body, my soul, my substance, my fame, my friends, my liberty, and my life: dispose of me, and of all that is mine, as it seemeth best to Thee, and to the glory of Thy blessed Name.

I am not now mine, but Thine.

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Therefore claim me as Thy right, keep me as Thy charge, and love me as Thy child. Fight for me when I am assaulted, heal me when I am wounded, and revive me when I am destroyed.

My LORD and my GOD, I beseech Thee to give me patience in troubles, humility in comforts, constancy in temptations, and victory against all my ghostly enemies. Grant me sorrow for my sins, thankfulness for Thy benefits, fear of Thy judgments, love of Thy mercies, and mindfulness of Thy presence for evermore.

Make me humble to my superiors, and friendly to my equals; make me ready to pleasure all, and loth to offend any: make me loving to my friends, and charitable to mine enemies.

Give me modesty in my countenance, gravity in my behaviour, deliberation in my speech, holiness in my thoughts, and righteousness in all my actions. Let Thy mercy cleanse

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me from my sins, and let Thy grace bring forth in me the fruits of everlasting life.

LORD, let me be obedient without arguing, humble without fawning, patient without grudging, pure without corruption, merry without lightness, sad without mistrust, sober without dulness, true without doubleness, fearing Thee without desperation, and trusting Thee without presumption.

Let me be joyful for nothing but that which pleaseth Thee; nor sorrowful for anything but that which doth displease Thee. Let my labour be my delight, which is for Thee; and let all rest weary me which is not in Thee.

Give me a waking spirit and a diligent soul, that I may seek to know Thy will; and when I know it truly, may perform it faithfully, to the honour and glory of Thy ever blessed Name. *Amen.*

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PRAYER FOR GRACE TO BE FREQUENT IN PRAYER.

HELE.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful GOD; Who hast been graciously pleased not only to permit, but to encourage, and even command us, who are but vile dust and ashes, to make our requests known unto Thee; and hast promised by Thy Blessed Son, that whatsoever we ask in His Name, we shall receive; assist me with Thy grace, so attentively to consider the all-sufficient goodness of Thy nature, and the miserable indigency of mine own, that I may set a due value upon this inestimable privilege, and rejoice in every opportunity of worshipping Thy glorious Majesty, and presenting my supplications at the throne of Thy Grace. Grant me grace, I beseech

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Thee, to give diligent heed always to keep my soul in a fit temper for devotion; and to walk under such a constant sense of Thine all-seeing Providence, and my absolute dependence, as may dispose me to be frequently lifting up my heart unto Thee, in pious ejaculations, and devout breathings; and especially to be strictly regular and constant in my morning and evening devotions, and in observing the stated hours of public prayer.

And, that I may always receive a gracious answer to my petitions, grant, I humbly beseech Thee, that in all my supplications to Thy Divine Majesty, I may prostrate myself before Thee with becoming apprehensions of Thine infinite excellencies and perfections, and of my own vileness and demerits; with such a steady, intense application of mind, as is suitable to the nature and importance of so sacred and advantageous a duty; and with such devout

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affections, and fervent desires, as may manifest an inward sense and feeling of my innumerable wants and miseries, and a just esteem and value for the inestimable mercies I sue to Thee for; with an entire submission and resignation to Thy blessed will; and with a firm and lively persuasion, that Thou art both able and willing to fulfil all my desires, and that if I ask according to Thy will, Thou assuredly wilt fulfil them in such a manner, as shall be most expedient for me.

And because Thou hast made our forgiveness of others a condition of our obtaining forgiveness at Thy hands; and hast commanded us to lift up holy hands in prayer, without wrath, as well as without doubting; endue me, I humbly pray Thee, with such a meek and even temper, as will not easily be provoked or discomposed; and with such a charitable and beneficent spirit, as may incline me readily to forgive whatever affronts or injuries I may happen to

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meet with; and cheerfully to do all good offices in my power to any of my fellow-creatures.

Finally, I beg that I may always approach Thy throne of grace in a due sense, that I am infinitely less than the least of all Thy mercies, and utterly unworthy to offer up any petition unto Thee, but in the name, and through the mediation of Thy Son JESUS CHRIST; by Whom alone we have access unto Thee, our offended FATHER; and in Whom we are sure to be accepted; for He is our merciful and faithful High Priest, Who hath put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself, and is able also to save all them to the uttermost who come unto Thee by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them; to Whom, therefore, with Thee and the HOLY SPIRIT, be ascribed, as is most due, all honour, glory, thanksgiving and praise, now and evermore. *Amen.*

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FOR HOLINESS.

BISHOP WILSON.

O GOD, Who hast called me to holiness, give me a firm faith in Thy power, through our LORD JESUS CHRIST, that by His assistance I may get the mastery over all my sins and corruptions; that I may be redeemed from all iniquity; that I may be holy, as He Who has called me is holy.

Possess my soul with an earnest desire of pleasing Thee, and with a fear of offending Thee. Let me be ever ready to forgive injuries, and backward to offer any. Give me, O LORD, faith and patience, that I may neither murmur at Thy appointments, nor be angry against the instruments of Thy justice. Deliver me from the errors and vices of the age we live in; from infidelity, wicked principles, from profaneness, heresies, and schism. I most heartily thank Thee,

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O GOD, for Thy perpetual care of me, for all Thy mercies bestowed upon me, for the blessings of nature and of grace. Give a blessing to those means which Thou Thyself hast appointed. Grant, O GOD, that I may never receive Thy grace in vain, but that I may live like one who believes and hopes for the joys of heaven. Let me ever be sorry for my sins, thankful for Thy blessings, fear Thy judgments, love Thy mercies, remember Thy presence. Vouchsafe me Thy HOLY SPIRIT to bear witness with my spirit, that I am Thy child. Give me an humble mind, a godly fear, and a quiet conscience. All which things I ask for JESUS' sake. *Amen.*

FOR HOLINESS OF INTENTION.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ETERNAL GOD, Who hast made all things for man, and hast made

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man for Thy glory, sanctify, I pray Thee, my body and soul, my thoughts and mine intentions, my words and mine actions, that whatever I shall think, or speak, or do, may be by me *designed* to the glorification of Thy Name, and by Thy blessing, may be effective and successful in the work of GOD. LORD, let no pride or self-seeking, no impure mixture or unhandsome purposes pollute my spirit, or unhallow any of my words and actions; but let my body be a servant of my spirit, and both body and spirit be servants of JESUS CHRIST, that doing all things for Thy glory here, I may for His sake be partaker of Thy glory hereafter. *Amen.*

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A PRAYER BEFORE READING OR HEARING SCRIPTURE.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O HOLY and Eternal JESUS, Who hast begotten us by Thy Word, renewed us by Thy Spirit, fed us by Thy Sacraments, and by the daily ministry of Thy Word, still go on to build me up to life eternal. Let Thy most HOLY SPIRIT be present with me and rest upon me in the reading, or hearing Thy sacred Word; that I may do it humbly, reverently, without prejudice, with a mind ready and desirous to learn and to obey; that I may be readily furnished and instructed to every good work, and may practise all Thy holy laws and commandments, to the glory of Thy Holy Name, O Holy and Eternal JESUS. *Amen.*

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PRAYER FOR PROFITABLE USE OF SCRIPTURE.

HELE.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Who of Thine infinite love to mankind, hast been graciously pleased to reveal to us in the Holy Scriptures whatever is necessary for us to believe and practise in order to our eternal salvation, grant that I may, with faithful care and diligence, apply myself to the reading of those sacred volumes; and do Thou open mine eyes, I beseech Thee, that I may see the wondrous things of Thy law. Dispose me, by Thy grace, to peruse them with that reverence and respect which are due to Thy gracious manifestations; with an entire submission of my *understanding* to Thy Divine authority; and with a sincere and steadfast resolution of mind to govern my *life* by the maxims

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of Thy Holy Gospel, and to do and suffer Thy blessed will in every thing.

Let Thy precious promises quicken mine obedience, and make me fruitful and abounding in the work of the LORD: and let Thy dreadful threatenings possess my soul with an awful fear of displeasing Thee, and make me speedily to depart from all iniquity.

O Thou, from Whom is all our sufficiency, and Who workest in us to will and to do of Thy good pleasure! I humbly beseech Thee to purge my heart of all hypocrisy, pride, and self-conceit, of all sensual desires and worldly cares, and every thing that will hinder the growth and increase of the heavenly seed of Thy Word. And grant that I may so seriously tend to the great truths Thy goodness hath revealed to us in the Gospel, and so heedfully observe those divine instructions, and moving arguments to a sincere and uniform obedience, which I shall learn from

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thence, that my improvements in holiness may be answerable to the means of grace which Thou hast vouchsafed me; and I may so cheerfully run the way of Thy commandments, that I may finally attain Thy heavenly promises, through the merits of JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR DESIRE AND ABILITY TO PLEASE GOD.

HELE.

O MOST blessed and gracious GOD! the FATHER of mercies and fountain of happiness! in Whose presence is fulness of joy, and at Whose right hand are pleasures for evermore! inspire me, I beseech Thee, with such a lively sense of Thine infinite excellency and goodness, and with such a vehement desire of that eternal weight of glory which Thou hast promised to all those that love and obey Thee, as may every day more

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and more raise and improve my love of Thee, and dispose me more cheerfully to run the way of Thy commandments, and to be holy even as Thou art holy, in all manner of conversation. Fix my thoughts, my hopes, and my affections upon heaven, and heavenly things. Engage all the powers and faculties of my soul to love and delight in Thee; and to endeavour (as much as possible) to be like Thee in all the imitable perfections of Thy nature. Make my heart the seat of prayer and holy meditation; and my body a fit temple for Thy HOLY SPIRIT to dwell in; that the one being inured to spiritual objects, and the other continually exercised to godliness, I may be prepared both in body and soul, to pass eternity in the contemplation of Thy glorious excellencies; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD, Who with Thee and the HOLY GHOST, liveth and reigneth One GOD, world without end. *Amen.*

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FOR A LIFE AGREEABLE TO OUR KNOWLEDGE.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

As I have prayed unto Thee, O Heavenly FATHER, to be taught the true understanding of Thy blessed Word, by Thy HOLY SPIRIT, so I most entirely beseech Thee, to give me grace to lead a life agreeable to my knowledge. Suffer me not to be of the number of them, which profess that they know GOD with their mouth, but deny Him with their deeds. Let me not be like unto that son which said unto his father that he would labour in his vineyard, and yet laboured nothing at all, but went abroad loitering idly. Make me rather like unto that good and fruitful land, which yieldeth again her seed with great increase; that men, seeing my good works, may glorify Thee, my Heavenly FATHER. *Amen.*

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PRAYER FOR GRACE TO FULFIL BAPTISMAL PROMISES.

HELE.

O MOST Gracious GOD! Who workest in us both to will and to do of Thy good pleasure; vouchsafe to me, I beseech Thee, such a measure of Thy grace, as may enable me to fulfil all my holy resolutions, and to walk worthy of that blessed state whereunto Thou hast called me.

Grant that I, being regenerate, and made Thy child by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by Thy HOLY SPIRIT, and may give all diligence to eschew those things that are contrary to my profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same.

Grant me perfectly to know Thy SON JESUS CHRIST to be the way, the truth, and the life; that, being

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established in the truth of Thy holy Gospel, I may give up myself obediently to follow Thy holy commandments, and steadfastly walk in the way that leadeth to eternal life.

Grant that I may lean only upon the hope of Thy heavenly grace; and being evermore defended by Thy mighty power, may successfully withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil, and with a pure heart and mind may follow Thee, the only GOD.

Grant that I may both perceive and know what things I ought to do, and also may have grace and power so faithfully to fulfil the same, that by the innocency of my life, and constancy of my faith, I may glorify Thy Holy Name; and plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of Thee be plenteously rewarded.

Grant that I may diligently follow the example of my SAVIOUR CHRIST, and be made like unto Him; that as He died and rose again for me so I

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may die unto sin, and rise again unto righteousness; continually mortifying all my evil and corrupt affections, and daily proceeding in all virtue and godliness of living; that so, as I have been made partaker of the Death of Thy SON, I may also be partaker of His Resurrection, and finally with the residue of Thy Saints, may be an inheritor of Thine everlasting kingdom, through the same Thy SON JESUS CHRIST, Who with Thee, and the HOLY GHOST, liveth and reigneth One GOD, world without end.

Now the very GOD of peace sanctify me wholly: and I pray GOD, my whole spirit, and soul, and body, be preserved blameless unto the coming of our LORD JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

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AGAINST TEMPTATIONS.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O GOD and FATHER of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, Thy Name is great, Thy essence is infinite, Thy goodness is eternal, and Thy power hath no limit; Thou art the GOD and LORD of all, blessed for evermore. Look down in mercy and compassion from Thy dwelling, hear my prayers and supplications, and deliver me from all temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil. Take not Thy grace from me, let me never want Thy help in my needs, nor Thy comfort in the day of my danger and calamity. Never try me beyond my strength, nor afflict me beyond my patience, nor smite me but with a father's rod. I have no strength of my own, Thou art my confidence, my rock, and my

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strong salvation. Save me, O GOD, from the miseries of this world, and never let me suffer the intolerable calamities of the next. Rescue me from the evils I have done, and preserve me from the evils I have deserved; that living before Thee with a clean heart, and undefiled body, and sanctified spirit, I may, at the day of judgment, be presented pure and spotless by the Blood of the LAMB, that I may sing eternal hallelujahs in heavenly places to the honour of GOD our SAVIOUR, Who hath redeemed our souls from death, our eyes from tears, and our feet from falling. Grant this in the richness of Thy mercy, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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FOR THE FEAR OF GOD.

SPINCKES.

O GLORIOUS Majesty, Who only art high, and to be feared, possess my soul with a holy awe and reverence of Thee; that I may give Thee the honour due unto Thy Name, and may bear such a respect to all things which relate to Thee, that I may never profane any holy thing, nor sacrilegiously invade what Thou hast set apart to Thyself. And since Thou art a GOD that wilt not clear the guilty, let the dread of Thy justice make me tremble to provoke Thee in anything. O let me not so misplace my fear, as to be afraid of man, that shall die, and of the son of man, that shall be made as grass; and forget the LORD my Maker; but replenish my soul with that fear of the LORD, which is the beginning of wisdom;

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which may be as a bridle to all my brutish appetites, and keep me in a constant conformity to Thy holy will. Hear me, O LORD, I beseech Thee, and put this fear in my heart; that I may not depart from Thee, but may work out my own salvation with fear and trembling, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF ZEAL.

SPINCKES.

O GOD, Who by the precepts of the Gospel, and the example of the Blessed JESUS, hast taught us the art of governing our passions; let not the specious pretence of zeal for Thy service betray me into any unreasonable heats, much less into such actions as Thou hast forbidden. Let not any difference in religion destroy in me that charity, which is a peculiar mark of Thy disciples; but teach me to

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compassionate those who are in error, to pity the prejudices by which they are unhappily misled; and with meekness and modesty to endeavour their recovery; if, peradventure, GOD will give them repentance to the acknowledgment of the truth. Make me ready to all acts of kindness towards their persons, and to implore Thy grace in their behalf, which is able to subdue the most inveterate errors; that though they continue enemies to Thy truth, I may never sacrifice my patience and meekness; but by a continuance in well doing may wait for glory, and honour, and immortality, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR FAITH.

BISHOP WILSON.

GRANT, O GOD, that I may with humility receive, and with persever-

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ance hold fast, all those truths which Thou hast revealed.

I thank Thee, O GOD, for Thy holy Word, and for that Thou hast not left us, in the affair of eternity, to the uncertainty of our own reason and judgment.

Defend me against all delusions of error; the snares of wit and learning; the railleries of profane men; and from deserting the truth under oppression.

Grant, O GOD, that neither education, interest, prejudice, or passion, may ever hinder me from discerning the truth. Open the eyes of all that are in error; heal the wounds of the divided Church; that we may be one fold under one Shepherd. *Amen.*

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FOR A RIGHT FAITH.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O HOLY and Eternal JESUS, Who didst die for me and all mankind, abolishing our sin, reconciling us to GOD, adopting us into the portion of Thine heritage, and establishing with us a covenant of faith and obedience, making our souls to rely upon spiritual strengths, by the supports of a holy belief, and the expectation of rare promises, and the infallible truths of GOD: O let me for ever dwell upon the Rock, leaning upon Thy arm, believing Thy Word, trusting in Thy promises, waiting for Thy mercies, and doing Thy commandments; that the devil may not prevail upon me, and my own weaknesses may not abuse or unsettle my persuasions, nor my sins discompose my just confidence in Thee and Thy

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eternal mercies. Let me always be Thy servant and Thy disciple, and die in the communion of Thy Church, of all faithful people. LORD, I renounce whatsoever is against Thy truth; and if secretly I have, or do believe, any false proposition, I do it in the simplicity of my heart and great weakness; and if I could discover it, would dash it in pieces by a solemn disclaiming it: for Thou art the way, the truth, and the life. And I know, that whatsoever Thou hast declared, that is the truth of GOD: and I do firmly adhere to the religion Thou hast taught, and glory in nothing so much as that I am a Christian, that Thy Name is called upon me. O my GOD, though I die, yet will I put my trust in Thee. In Thee, O LORD, have I trusted; let me never be confounded. *Amen.*

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FOR CHARITY AND LIBERALITY.

BISHOP WILSON.

POSSESS my soul, O GOD, with a sincere love for Thee, and for all mankind.

Let no malice or ill-will abide in me. Give me grace to forgive all that have offended me; and forgive my many offences against Thee, and against my neighbour.

Make me ever ready to give, and glad to distribute, that Thy gifts, passing through my hands, may procure for me the prayers of the poor; and that I may lay up in store for myself a good foundation against the time to come, that I may attain eternal life, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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PRAYER AGAINST COVETOUSNESS.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, eternal treasure of all good things, Thou fillest all things with plenteousness; Thou clothest the lilies of the field, and feedest the young ravens that call upon Thee: Thou art all-sufficient in Thyself, and all-sufficient to us; let Thy Providence be my storehouse, Thy dispensation of temporal things the limit of my labour, my own necessity the measure of my desire: but never let my desires of this world be greedy, nor my labour immoderate, nor my care vexatious and distracting, but prudent, moderate, holy, subordinate to Thy will, the measure Thou hast appointed for me.

Teach me, O GOD, to despise the world, to labour for the true riches, to seek the kingdom of heaven and

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its righteousness, to be content with what Thou providest, to be in this world like a stranger with affections set upon heaven, labouring for, and longing after, the possessions of Thy kingdom; but never suffer my affections to dwell below, but give me a heart compassionate to the poor, liberal to the needy, open and free in all my communications, without base ends, or greedy designs, or unworthy arts of gain: but let my strife be to gain Thy favour, to obtain the blessedness of doing good to others, and giving to them that want, and the blessedness of receiving from Thee pardon and support, grace and holiness, perseverance and glory, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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FOR SELF-DENIAL.

WILSON.

BLESSED JESUS, Who pleasedst not Thyself, but tookest upon Thee the form of a servant, to teach mankind the great duty and blessings of self-denial: assist me to follow Thy commands and Thy holy example, though I should be obliged to lose anything, as dear as a right hand or a right eye. Give me resolution to deny my inclinations for the good things of this world, even while I may command them: to subdue my corrupt affections, and to take revenge upon myself, for my intemperance, by mortification: for misspending my time, by retirement: for the errors of my tongue, by silence: and for all the sins of my life, by a deep humiliation, patiently submitting to all the troubles with which Thou shalt think fit

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to exercise or punish me: so that being effectually weaned from this world, and weary of its corruptions, I may long to repose myself in the grave, in hopes of a better life, through Thy mercy and merits, O LORD JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

FOR A RIGHT USE OF THE GOOD THINGS OF THIS WORLD.

SPINCKES.

THOU, O LORD, art the Father of Mercies, and the Author of all the blessings I am now, or have at any time been partaker of: O let me never have cause to repent, that Thou hast bestowed them upon me. Vouchsafe me such a right notion and esteem of all earthly privileges and enjoyments, that I may never be brought under the power of any of them: but may constantly use that portion of them Thou conferrest upon

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me, with temperance, sobriety, and charity, for the time they are continued to me; and with a ready disposition of mind to part with them, whensoever Thou shalt see fit to strip me, either of the whole, or of any part of them; and with such heavenly-mindedness, and an eye so immoveably fixed on the inconceivable rewards of the other world, that I may never dare to set these in competition with them. Incline my heart to a constant solicitude for another life, and a care to lay up to myself a treasure in Heaven, by a good improvement of whatever I enjoy here below. Grant that I never may be high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in Thee the living GOD, Who givest us all things richly to enjoy; that I may be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate, and so may lay up to myself a good foundation against the time to come, that I may lay hold on eternal life. Make me

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truly sensible how impossible it is to serve both GOD and mammon; and that if I love the world, and the things of this world, it is a certain sign that the love of GOD is not in me. Be Thou my GOD and my Guide in all my concerns; and grant me so to pass through things temporal, that I finally lose not the things eternal. This I beg for Thy mercy's sake, in Thy SON our LORD JESUS CHRIST, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the HOLY GHOST, ever One GOD, world without end. *Amen.*

AGAINST WORLDLINESS.

WILSON.

GREAT and glorious GOD, Who alone art worthy of our love and service, cure me of, and preserve me from, the sin and vanity of admiring this world.

Give me grace to renounce all

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covetous desires, all love of riches and pleasures; to desire only what is necessary, and to be content with what Thou, O LORD, thinkest so;

Not to be troubled at the loss or want of anything besides Thy favour;

That no business, no pleasures, may divert me from thoughts of the world to come;

That I may cheerfully part with all these things when Thou requirest it of me;

And that I may ever be prepared to do so, dispose me to a temperance in all things, and to lay up my treasure in heaven, for JESUS CHRIST's sake. *Amen.*

AGAINST WORLDLY CAREFULNESS.

KING EDWARD THE SIXTH'S PRIMER.

OH most dear and tender FATHER, our Defender and Nourisher; move

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us with Thy grace; that we may cast off the great blindness of our minds, and carefulness of worldly things; and may put our whole study and care in keeping of Thy holy law; and that we may labour and travail for our necessities in this life, like the birds of the air and the lilies of the field, without care. For Thou hast promised to be careful for us; and hast commanded that upon Thee we should cast all our care; Which livest and reignest world without end. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR TEMPERANCE.

LAKE.

GRACIOUS LORD, Who refreshest us with Thy good creatures, and art the Author of all good things which we do enjoy; give me grace, I pray Thee, to use them with thankfulness and moderation; let me never be

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overcharged with surfeiting and drunkenness, nor my table be ever made a snare unto me; but that I may so eat and drink, that my flesh may be subdued to the Spirit, and I may ever obey Thy godly motions in righteousness and true holiness, to Thy honour and glory, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR TEMPERANCE.

SPINCKES.

O BOUNTIFUL and gracious LORD, Who givest us all things richly to enjoy, be Thou gracious to Thy servant yet more, and suffer me not by my folly to turn Thy bounty into sin, Thy grace into wantonness; but give me the spirit of temperance and sobriety, that I may use Thy creatures in the same measure, and to the same purposes which Thou hast designed; so as may best enable me to serve

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Thee; and not to make provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof. Pardon me, O GOD, in whatsoever I have offended Thee, by meat, and drink, and pleasure; and never let my body any more be oppressed with surfeiting and drunkenness, or the enervating luxuries of this sensual life; but subdue my appetite to reason, and Thy grace, that my table may be no more a snare unto me, nor my food become a temptation, a sin, or a disease; but that my affections being changed from earthly to heavenly, I may hunger and thirst after righteousness, and account it my meat and drink, and pleasure, to do Thy will, O GOD. Grant this, O LORD, for Thy SON JESUS CHRIST'S sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

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FOR TEMPERANCE.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY GOD and gracious FATHER of men and Angels, Who openest Thy hand and fillest all things with plenty, and hast provided for Thy servant, sufficient to satisfy all my needs; teach me to use Thy creatures soberly and temperately, that I may not, with meat or drink, make the temptations of my enemy to prevail upon me, or my spirit unapt for the performance of my duty, or my body healthless, or my affections sensual and unholy. O my GOD, never suffer that the blessings which Thou givest me may either minister to sin or sickness, but to health and holiness, and thanksgiving; that in the strength of Thy provisions I may cheerfully, and actively, and diligently, serve Thee:

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that I may worthily feast at Thy table here, and be accounted worthy, through Thy grace, to be admitted to Thy table hereafter, at the eternal supper of the LAMB. *Amen.*

AGAINST GLUTTONY.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY FATHER of men and Angels, Who hast, of Thy great bounty, provided plentifully for all mankind to support his state, to relieve his necessities, to refresh his sorrows, to recreate his labour; that he may praise Thee and rejoice in Thy mercies and bounty: be Thou gracious unto Thy servant yet more, and suffer me not, by my folly, to change Thy bounty into sin, Thy grace into wantonness. Give me the spirit of temperance and sobriety, that I may use Thy creatures in the

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same measures, and to the same purposes which Thou hast designed, so as may best enable me to serve Thee, but 'not to make provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof:' let me not, as Esau, prefer meat before a blessing; but subdue my appetite, subjecting it to reason and the grace of GOD, being content with what is moderate, and useful, and easy to be obtained; taking it in due time, receiving it thankfully, making it to minister to my body, that my body may be a good instrument of the soul, and the soul a servant of Thy Divine Majesty for ever and ever.

Pardon, O GOD, in whatsoever I have offended Thee by meat, and drink, and pleasures; and never let my body any more be oppressed with sloth and delicacies, or my soul drowned in wine or strong drink; but let my appetites be changed into spiritual desires, that I may hunger after the food of Angels, and thirst

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for the wine of elect souls, and account it 'meat, and drink, and pleasure, to do Thy will,' O GOD. LORD, let me eat and drink so, that my food may not become a temptation, or a sin, or a disease; but grant that, with so much caution and prudence, I may watch over my appetite; that I may, in the strength of Thy mercies and refreshments, in the light of Thy countenance, and in the paths of Thy commandments, walk before Thee all the days of my life, acceptable to Thee in JESUS CHRIST, ever advancing His honour, and being filled with His Spirit, that I may, at last, partake of His glory; through the same JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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A PRAYER AGAINST SENSUALITY.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ETERNAL FATHER, Thou that sittest in Heaven, invested with essential glories and Divine perfections, fill my soul with so deep a sense of the excellencies of spiritual and heavenly things, that my affections, being weaned from the pleasures of the world, and the false allurements of sin, I may, with great severity, and the prudence of a holy discipline and strict desires, with clear resolutions and a free spirit, have my conversation in heaven and heavenly employments; that being, in affections as in my condition, a pilgrim and a stranger here, I may covet after and labour for an abiding city, and at last may enter into, and for ever dwell in, the celestial Jerusalem, which is the Mother of us all; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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A PRAYER TO BE USED UNDER TEMPTATION TO PRIVATE SIN.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, Infinite and Eternal, Thou fillest all things with Thy presence; Thou art everywhere by Thy essence and by Thy power, in Heaven by glory, in holy places by Thy grace and favour, in the hearts of Thy servants by Thy Spirit, in the consciences of all men by Thy testimony and observation of us. Teach me to walk always as in Thy presence, to fear Thy Majesty, to reverence Thy wisdom and omniscience; that I may never dare to commit any indecency in the eye of my LORD and my Judge; but that I may with so much care and reverence demean myself, that my Judge may not be my accuser, but my advocate; that I,

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expressing the belief of Thy presence here by careful walking, may feel the effects of it in the participation of eternal glory, through JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

A PRAYER AGAINST LUST.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ETERNAL Purity, Thou art brighter than the sun, purer than the Angels, and the Heavens are not clean in Thy sight; with mercy behold Thy servant, apt to be tempted with every object, and to be overcome by every enemy. I cannot, O GOD, stand in the day of battle and danger, unless Thou coverest me with Thy shield, and hidest me under Thy wings. The fiery darts of the devil are ready to consume me, unless the dew of Thy grace for ever descend upon me. Thou didst make me after Thy Image:

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be pleased to preserve me so, pure and spotless, chaste and clean; that my body may be a holy temple, and my soul a sanctuary to entertain Thy Divinest Spirit, the Spirit of love and holiness, the Prince of purities.

Reprove in me the spirit of fornication and uncleanness, and fill my soul with holy fires, that no strange fire may come into the temple of my body, where Thou hast chosen to dwell. O cast out all those unclean spirits, which have unhallowed the place where Thy holy feet have trod: pardon all my hurtful thoughts, all my impurities; that I, who am a member of CHRIST, may not become the member of a harlot, nor the slave of the devil, nor a servant of lust and unworthy desires: but do Thou purify my love, and let me seek the things that are above, hating the garments spotted with the flesh; never any more grieving Thy HOLY SPIRIT by filthy inclinations, with impure and fantastic thoughts: but let my

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thoughts be holy, my soul pure, my body chaste and healthful, my spirit severe, devout, and religious, every day more and more; that, at the day of our appearing, I may be presented to GOD washed and cleansed, pure and spotless, by the Blood of the Holy LAMB, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR CHASTITY.

SPINCKES.

O HOLY and Immaculate JESUS, Who wast born of a pure virgin, and delightest to dwell in pure and virgin hearts, with mercy behold Thy servant, surrounded with the temptations of those impure and fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; and too apt to be overcome by them. I cannot, O my GOD, stand in the day of battle and danger, unless Thy grace

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prevent and strengthen me: O let Thy Blessed Spirit descend upon me, the spirit of purity and holiness, and preserve me chaste and spotless, clean and undefiled; that my body may be a holy temple, and my soul a sanctuary, fit for Thee to dwell in. Pardon all my past impurities, whether in thought, word, or deed; and reprove in me the spirit of lust and uncleanness. Kindle the holy fire of Thy love in my heart, and let it consume all my dross; that I may no more grieve Thy Blessed Spirit by any works of darkness, but, after a chaste and religious life here, may be presented to GOD, washed and cleansed in Thy Blood, and reign with Thee for ever. *Amen.* Holy LAMB of GOD, *Amen.*

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FOR CHASTITY.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our most holy and eternal FATHER, Who art pure of eyes, and can behold no uncleanness; let Thy gracious and HOLY SPIRIT descend upon Thy servant, and reprove the spirit of fornication and uncleanness, and cast him out, that my body may be a holy temple, and my soul a sanctuary to entertain the Prince of purities, the holy and eternal SPIRIT of GOD. O let no impure thoughts pollute that soul which GOD hath sanctified; no unclean words pollute that tongue which GOD hath commanded to be an organ of His praises; no unholy and unchaste action rend the veil of that temple where the Holy JESUS hath been pleased to enter, and hath chosen for

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His habitation; but seal up all my senses from all vain objects, and let them be entirely possessed with religion, and fortified with prudence, watchfulness, and mortification; that I, possessing my vessel in holiness, may lay it down with a holy hope, and receive it again in a joyful resurrection, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR A CLEAN HEART.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

THE heart of man naturally is corrupt and unsearchable through the multitude of sins, which lie buried in it; insomuch that no man is able to say, My heart is clean, and I am clear from sin. Remove from me, therefore, Oh Heavenly FATHER, my corrupt, sinful, stony, stubborn, and unfaithful heart. Create in me a

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clean heart, free from all noisome and ungodly thoughts. Breathe into my heart by Thy HOLY SPIRIT, godly and spiritual motions; that out of the good treasure of the heart, I may bring forth good things, unto the praise and glory of Thy Name. *Amen.*

FOR SINCERITY.

LAKE.

O HOLY LORD, Who searchest the heart, and triest the reins; try me, I beseech Thee, and seek the ground of my heart; purge it from all hypocrisy, and suffer not any accursed thing to lurk within me; give me truth in the inward parts, to be pure in heart, that I may be qualified to see Thee in Thy Kingdom, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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A PRAYER FOR THE GRACE OF HUMILITY.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O HOLY and most Gracious Master and SAVIOUR JESUS, Who by Thy example and by Thy precept, by the practice of a whole life and frequent discourses, didst command us to be meek and humble in imitation of Thy incomparable sweetness and great humility; be pleased to give me the grace, as Thou hast given me the commandment: enable me to do whatsoever Thou commandest, and command whatsoever Thou pleasest. O mortify in me all proud thoughts and vain opinions of myself: let me return to Thee the acknowledgment and the fruits of all those good things Thou hast given me, that, by confessing I am wholly in debt to Thee for

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them, I may not boast myself for what I have received, and for what I am highly accountable: and for what is my own, teach me to be ashamed and humbled, it being nothing but sin and misery, weakness and uncleanness. Let me go before my brethren in nothing but in striving to do them honour and Thee glory, never to seek my own praise, never to delight in it when it is offered; that, despising myself, I may be accepted by Thee in the honours with which Thou shalt crown Thy humble and despised servants, for JESUS' sake, in the kingdom of eternal glory. *Amen*.

FOR HUMILITY.

LAKE.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Who resistest the proud, and givest grace to the humble; mercifully grant that I may

follow the example of the great humility of Thy Blessed SON, Who did humble Himself to take upon Him our flesh and to suffer death upon the Cross: convince me that I am less than the least of all Thy mercies; that as I am vile in myself, so let me be vile in mine own eyes, and may therefore esteem every man better than myself. Grant this, O FATHER, for Thy SON JESUS CHRIST'S sake. *Amen.*

FOR MEEKNESS.

LAKE.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Who hast given Thine Only SON to be unto us both a Sacrifice for sin, and also an Ensample of godly life; give me grace to learn of Him Who was meek and lowly of heart, to put on bowels of mercy, meekness, and long-suffering; to be so far from offering the least

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injury, that I may never return the greatest: and grant, I beseech Thee, that the course of this world may be so peacefully ordered by Thy governance, that I may joyfully serve Thee in all godly quietness, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

AGAINST ENVY.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O MOST Gracious FATHER, Thou Spring of an eternal charity, Who hast so loved mankind, that Thou didst open Thy bosom, and send Thy Holy SON to convey Thy mercies to us; and Thou didst create Angels and men, that Thou mightest have objects to whom Thou mightest communicate Thy goodness: give me grace to follow so glorious a precedent, that I may never envy the prosperity of any one, but rejoice to

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honour him whom Thou honourest, to love him whom Thou lovest, to commend the virtuous, to discern the precious from the vile, giving honour to whom honour belongs, that I may go to heaven in the noblest way, of rejoicing in the good of others.

O Eternal GOD, never suffer me to fall into the sin of envy; let it not be ill with me, when it is well with others, but let Thy HOLY SPIRIT so overrule me for ever, that I may pity the afflicted, and be compassionate, and have a fellow-feeling of my brother's sorrows, and that I may, as much as I can, promote his good, and give Thee thanks for it, and rejoice with them that do rejoice; never censuring his actions enviously, nor detracting from his praises spitefully, nor upbraiding his infelicities maliciously, but pleased in all things which Thou doest or givest; that I may then triumph in spirit, when Thy kingdom is advanced, when Thy SPIRIT rules, when Thy Church is

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profited, when Thy Saints rejoice, when the devil's interest is destroyed; truly loving Thee, and truly loving my brother; that we may all together join in the holy communion of Saints, both here and hereafter, in the measures of grace and glory; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

AGAINST WRATH.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY Judge of men and Angels, Whose anger is always the minister of justice, slow, but severe, not lightly arising, but falling heavily when it comes: give to Thy servant a meek and a gentle spirit, that I also may be slow to anger, and easy to mercy and forgiveness. Give me a wise and a constant heart, that I may not be moved with every trifling mis-

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take, and inconsiderable accident, in the conversation and intercourse of others; never be moved to an intemperate anger for any injury that is done or offered; let my anger ever be upon a just cause, measured with moderation and reason, expressed with charity and prudence, lasting but till it hath done some good, either upon myself or others.

LORD, let me be ever courteous and easy to be entreated; never let me fall into a peevish or contentious spirit, but follow peace with all men, offering forgiveness, inviting them by courtesies, ready to confess my own errors, apt to make amends, and desirous to be reconciled. Let no sickness, or cross accident, no employment or weariness, make me angry or ungentle, and discontented or unthankful, or uneasy to them that minister to me; but, in all things, make me like unto the Holy JESUS. Give me the spirit of a Christian, charitable, humble, merciful, and

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meek, useful and liberal, complying with every chance; angry at nothing but my own sins, and grieving for the sins of others; that while my passion obeys my reason, and my reason is religious, and my religion is pure and undefiled, managed with humility and adorned with charity, I may escape Thy anger which I have deserved, and may dwell in Thy love, and be Thy son and servant for ever; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

AGAINST ANGER.

BISHOP WILSON.

O LORD, Who art a GOD ready to pardon, slow to anger, and of great kindness, remove far from me all occasions and effects of causeless and immoderate anger; all pride and prejudice, and too much concern for the things of

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this world; all intemperate speeches, and indecent passions.

Give me, O LORD, a mild, a peaceable, a meek, and an humble spirit, that, remembering my own infirmities, I may bear with those of others; that I may think lowly of myself, and not be angry when others also think lowly of me; that I may be patient towards all men, gentle and easy to be entreated; that GOD, for CHRIST'S sake, may be so towards me. *Amen.*

FOR A FORGIVING SPIRIT.

BISHOP WILSON.

O GOD, Who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men, show mercy to Thy servant, in forcing my corrupt nature to be obedient to Thy commands.

O GOD, Who hast made it my

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everlasting interest, as well as my duty, to forgive my neighbour whatever wrong he has done me; help me to overcome all the difficulties I have to struggle with, all pride, prejudice, and desire of rendering evil for evil, that I may not deprive my soul of that mercy, which Thine infinite goodness has offered to sinners.

O Blessed GOD, help me in this great concern, that I may never fall under Thy wrath for want of showing mercy to others; but grant, O Blessed JESUS, that in this I may be Thy Disciple indeed. *Amen.*

FOR MERCIFULNESS.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

THY dearly beloved SON in His Holy Gospel, exhorteth us to be merciful, even as Thou, our Heavenly FATHER art merciful, and promisest that if we

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be merciful to others, we shall obtain mercy of Thee, Which art the FATHER of mercies, and GOD of all consolation. Grant therefore, that forasmuch as Thou art our FATHER, and we Thy children, we may resemble Thee in all our life and conversation; and that as Thou art beneficial and liberal, not only to the good, but also to the evil, so we likewise may show ourselves merciful, gentle, and liberal to so many as have need of our help; that at the dreadful day of doom we may be found in the number of those merciful, whom Thou shalt appoint by Thy only begotten SON to go into everlasting life; to Whom with Thee and the HOLY GHOST be all honour and praise. *Amen.*

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A PRAYER FOR A CONTENTED SPIRIT, AND THE GRACES OF MODERATION AND PATIENCE.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, FATHER and LORD of all the creatures, Who hast disposed all things and chances so as may best glorify Thy wisdom, and serve the ends of Thy justice, and magnify Thy mercy, by secret and indiscernible ways bringing good out of evil: I most humbly beseech Thee to give me wisdom from above, that I may adore Thee, and admire Thy ways and footsteps, which are in the great deep and not to be searched out. Teach me to submit to Thy Providence in all things; to be content in all changes of person and condition; to be temperate in prosperity, and to read my duty in the

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lines of Thy mercy; and in adversity to be meek, patient, and resigned; and to look through the cloud, that I may wait for the consolation of the LORD, and the day of redemption; in the mean time doing my duty with an unwearied diligence, and an undisturbed resolution, having no fondness for the vanities or possessions of this world, but laying my hopes in heaven and the rewards of holy living, and being strengthened with the spirit of the inner man, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR CONTENT.

LAKE.

O GOD, Heavenly FATHER, Who by Thy SON JESUS CHRIST, hast promised to all them that seek Thy Kingdom and the righteousness thereof, all things necessary to their

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bodily sustenance; keep me, I beseech Thee, under the protection of Thy good Providence, and learn me in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content: grant me grace to forsake all covetous desires, and inordinate love of riches, and so to pass through things temporal, that I finally lose not the things eternal; but that among all the sundry and manifold changes of the world, my heart may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR THANKFULNESS.

LAKE.

GRACIOUS GOD, Who hast taught me, that it is a joyful and pleasant thing to be thankful; suffer me not, I beseech Thee, to lose my part in

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that Divine pleasure, but make me truly and unfeignedly thankful to Thee for all Thy mercies; let Thy mercies lead me to repentance, and give me grace to improve them all to the advancement of Thy glory, and the furtherance of my salvation, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

PRAYER AGAINST DOUBTS AND INFIRMITIES.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ETERNAL GOD, most Gracious FATHER, in much mercy and compassion behold me, Thy servant laden with my sins, encompassed with infirmity, assaulted by enemies without, and apt to be betrayed by my own weaknesses within. If I am cheerful I am apt to be careless of my duty; if I am sad, I am timorous and

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unsafe, too ready to distrust Thee, and to sink under the burden of those calamities which by my sins I have deserved. O GOD, I confess, with sorrow and shame, that I resolve often to give myself entirely to Thy service, but I am so perpetually beaten with the violent tempests and storms of passion, that all my hopes and all my fears grow unactive and useless, and are overcome by them, and sink under my own evil customs and infirmities, lust, pride, ambition, anger; and under this state of infelicity I groan and labour, and to Thee I humbly make my complaint; for Thou art my hope and my strength, my rock and my might, my Saviour and defender, my support and my deliverer. O hear the cries of Thy humble and afflicted servant, and give me ease from my sorrows; give me a cheerful heart and a severe spirit; a love of Thy mercies, and a trembling at Thy judgments; an infinite desire to please Thee, and a great fear to

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offend Thee; and though I humbly desire of Thy glorious goodness, to secure and promote my eternal interest by what instruments Thou pleasest, yet because Thou art my FATHER and my merciful GOD, I beg of Thy infinite goodness to take care of my infirmities, and to pity my weakness; and make my religion to be to me the pleasantest thing in the world; that nothing may tempt me from Thee and prevail in the days of my weaknesses and disadvantage. *Amen.*

AGAINST UNQUIET AND PERPLEXING THOUGHTS.

DR. JOHNSON.

O LORD, my Maker and Protector, Who hast graciously sent me into the world to work out my salvation, enable me to drive from me all such

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unquiet and perplexing thoughts as may mislead or hinder me in the practice of those duties which Thou hast required. When I behold the works of Thy hands, and consider the course of Thy Providence, give me grace always to remember that Thy thoughts are not my thoughts, nor Thy ways my ways. And while it shall please Thee to continue me in this world, where much is to be done and little to be known, teach me, by Thy HOLY SPIRIT, to withdraw my mind from unprofitable and dangerous inquiries, from difficulties vainly curious, and doubts impossible to be solved. Let me rejoice in the light which Thou hast imparted; let me serve Thee with active zeal, and humble confidence, and wait with patient expectation for the time, in which the soul which Thou receivest shall be satisfied with knowledge. Grant this, O LORD, for JESUS CHRIST'S sake. *Amen.*

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FOR TRUST IN GOD.

SPINCKES.

O ALMIGHTY LORD, Who never failest them that trust in Thee, give me grace, in all difficulties and distresses, to have recourse to Thee, to rest and depend upon Thee. Thou wilt keep him, O LORD, in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: O let me always rest on this firm pillow, and never exchange it for the broken reeds of worldly succours. Suffer not my heart to be overcharged with the cares of this life, taking thought what I shall eat or drink, or wherewithal I shall be clothed; but grant, that, having, by honest industry, and the use of all lawful means, done my part, I may cheerfully commit myself to Thy Providence, casting all my care upon Thee, and being careful for nothing, but to be of the

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number of those whom Thou ownest and carest for; and, seeking first Thy kingdom and the righteousness thereof, I may steadfastly trust in Thee for such a measure of those outward things, as Thou, in Thy wisdom seest to be most expedient for me. Grant this, O LORD, for JESUS CHRIST His sake. *Amen.*

FOR DILIGENCE.

LAKE.

O LORD, Who in Thy Holy Gospel didst sentence the slothful and unprofitable servant to be cast into outer darkness; grant that I may not stand here all the day idle, but may give all diligence to make my calling and election sure; make me in some measure useful to myself and others, both as to this and a better life. O let me never lay mine eyes

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to sleep, nor mine eyelids to slumber, but learn and labour to get my own living in that state of life, whereto it hath pleased Thee to call me, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

A PRAYER AGAINST WEARINESS IN WELL-DOING.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O my GOD, merciful and gracious, my soul groans under the load of its own infirmity; when my spirit is willing, my flesh is weak; my understanding foolish and imperfect, my will peevish and listless, my affections wandering after strange objects, my fancy wild and unfixed, all my senses minister to folly and vanity; and though they were all made for religion, yet they least of all delight in that. O my GOD, pity me, and hear me when I pray, and make that I

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may pray acceptably. Give me a love to religion, an unwearied spirit in the things of GOD. Let me not relish or delight in the things of the world, in sensual objects and transitory possessions; but make my eyes look up to Thee, my soul be filled with Thee, my spirit ravished with Thy love, my understanding employed in the meditation of Thy law, all my powers and faculties of soul and body wholly serving Thee, and delighting in such holy ministries.

O relieve my spirit with Thy graciousness, take from me all tediousness of spirit, and give me a laboriousness that will not be tired, a hope that shall never fail, a desire of holiness not to be satisfied till it possesses a charity that will always increase; that I, making religion the business of my whole life, may turn all things into religion, doing all things to Thy glory, and by the measures of Thy Word and of Thy SPIRIT: that when Thou shalt call

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me from this deliciousness of employment, and the holy ministries of grace, I may pass into the employment of Saints and Angels, whose work it is with eternal joy and thanksgiving to sing praises to the mercies of the Great REDEEMER of men, and SAVIOUR of men and Angels, JESUS CHRIST our LORD: to Whom, with the FATHER and the HOLY GHOST, be all honour and worship, all service and thanks, all glory and dominion, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

FOR PERSEVERANCE.

BISHOP WILSON.

FINISH, O my GOD, the work of mercy and conversion, which Thou hast begun in me.

Save, O LORD JESUS, a soul which Thou hast redeemed by Thy Blood.

There is no merit in me, O GOD,

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to attract Thy mercy and goodness, but only my great misery and blindness. May I make a suitable return by an holy life.

According to the greatness of Thy goodness, and the multitude of Thy mercies, look upon me.

Sanctify my soul and body with Thy heavenly blessings, that they may be made Thy holy habitation, and that nothing may be found in me, that may offend the eyes of Thy Majesty.

Protect and keep me in the midst of the dangers of this corrupt world; and by Thy light and grace direct me in the way to everlasting life, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR PERSEVERANCE.

LAKE.

O LORD, raise up, I pray Thee, Thy power, and come among us, and with

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great might succour me; that whereas through my sins and wickedness, I am sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before me, Thy bountiful grace and mercy may help and strengthen me to hold out unto the end, that so I may be saved; to be faithful unto death, that I may receive a crown of life; nourish me, I pray Thee, with all goodness, and of Thy great mercy keep me in the same, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR A BLESSING ON A NEW PURSUIT.

DR. JOHNSON.

O GOD, Who hast ordained that whatever is to be desired should be sought by labour, and Who by Thy blessing bringest honest labour to good effect, look with mercy upon my studies and endeavours. Grant

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me, O LORD, by Thy HOLY SPIRIT, to design only what is lawful and right; enable me so to shun sloth and negligence, that every day may discharge part of the task which Thou hast allotted me; and so further with Thy help that labour, which without Thy help must be ineffectual, that I may obtain in mine undertaking such success as will most promote Thy glory, and the salvation of mine own soul, for the sake of JESUS CHRIST Thine only SON, our LORD. *Amen.*

AGAINST SLOTH.

BISHOP WILSON.

O GOD, Who hast given me an active spirit, and many opportunities of doing Thee service, give me grace to make use of all occasions of serving Thee faithfully, and doing good in my generation; make me to abhor that sloth which would lead me into

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an insensibility and forgetfulness of Thee and of my errand into the world; keep me from idleness, which would expose me to temptations, enfeeble my mind, and cover me with rags; make me ever sensible of the great evil of delaying to do the work in its season which Thou hast appointed me, that whatever my hand by Thy Providence findeth to do, I may do it with all my might; so that whenever I am called to give an account of my labours to my Great Master, I may not be judged an unprofitable servant. Accept of my ambition of serving Thee, Great GOD; and, O grant, that when my LORD comes He may find me so doing. *Amen.*

FOR GOOD USE OF TIME.

HELE.

O LORD GOD! Who hast created the light and darkness, and by the con-

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tinual interchanges of day and night dost put us in mind of our transitory condition, and the shortness of our abode here; give us grace to set ourselves seriously about the work of salvation, while the day of salvation lasteth; that when the night of death cometh, and our LORD shall call us to account, we may receive the reward of good and faithful servants, through the merits of JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR GRACE TO SPEND OUR TIME WELL.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ETERNAL GOD, Who, from all eternity, dost behold and love Thy own glories and perfections infinite, and hast created me to do the work of GOD after the manner of men, and to serve Thee in this generation, and

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according to my capacities; give me Thy grace, that I may be a careful and prudent spender of my time, so as I may best prevent, or resist, all temptation, and be profitable to the Christian commonwealth, and by discharging all my duty, may glorify Thy Name. Take from me all slothfulness, and give me a diligent and an active spirit, and wisdom to choose my employment; that I may do works proportionable to my person, and to the dignity of a Christian, and may fill up all the spaces of my time with actions of religion and charity; that, when the devil assaults me, he may not find me idle; and my dearest LORD, at His sudden coming, may find me busy in lawful, necessary and pious actions; improving my talent entrusted to me by Thee my LORD; that I may enter into the joy of my LORD, to partake of His eternal felicities, even for Thy mercy's sake, and for my dearest SAVIOUR's sake. *Amen.*

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FOR HOLINESS OF INTENTION.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ETERNAL GOD, Who hast made all things for man, and man for Thy glory, sanctify my body and soul, my thoughts and my intentions, my words and actions, that whatsoever I shall think, or speak, or do, may be by me designed to the glorification of Thy Name; and by Thy blessing it may be effective and successful in the work of GOD, according as it can be capable. LORD, turn my necessities into virtue; the works of nature into the works of grace, by making them orderly, regular, temperate, subordinate, and profitable to ends beyond their own proper efficacy: and let no pride or self-seeking, no covetousness or revenge, no impure mixture or unhandsome purposes, no little ends

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and low imaginations, pollute my spirit, and unhallow any of my words and actions: but let my body be a servant of my spirit, and both body and spirit servants of JESUS; that, doing all things for Thy glory here, I may be a partaker of Thy glory hereafter, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR A BLESSING ON A JOURNEY.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, Who fillest all things with Thy Presence, and art a GOD afar off, as well as near at hand, be pleased to guide me in my journey; preserving me from all perils and dangers, from sudden and sad accidents. Prosper my journey to Thy glory, and to all mine innocent purposes; and preserve me from all sin, that I may return in peace and

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holiness, with Thy favour and Thy blessing, and may serve Thee with thankfulness and obedience all the days of my pilgrimage: and at last bring me to Thy heavenly kingdom, to dwell in Thy Presence, and to sing Thy praises to all eternity, through JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

IN TIME OF AFFLICTION.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ETERNAL GOD, FATHER of mercies, and GOD of all comfort, with much mercy look upon the sorrows and sadnesses of Thy servant. My sins lie heavy upon me and press me sore, and there is no health in my bones by reason of Thy displeasure and my sin. The waters are gone over me, and I stick fast in the deep mire, and my miseries are without comfort, because they are punish-

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ments of my sin: and I am so evil and unworthy a person, that though I have great desires, yet I have no dispositions or worthiness toward receiving comfort. My sins have caused my sorrow, and my sorrow does not cure my sins: and unless for Thy own sake, and merely because Thou art good, Thou shalt pity me and relieve me, I am as much without remedy, as now I am without comfort. LORD, pity me; LORD, let Thy grace refresh my spirit. Let Thy comforts support me, Thy mercy pardon me, and never let my portion be amongst hopeless and accursed spirits: for Thou art good and gracious; and I throw myself upon Thy mercy. Let me never let my hold go, and do Thou with me what seems good in Thine own eyes. I cannot suffer more than I have deserved: and yet I can need no relief so great as Thy mercy is; for Thou art infinitely more merciful than I can be miserable; and Thy mercy, which is

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above all Thy own works, must needs be far above all my sin and all my misery. O Blessed JESUS, let me trust in Thee for ever, and let me never be confounded. *Amen.*

IN TIME OF TROUBLE.

BISHOP WILSON.

O MERCIFUL GOD, Who, in Thy wise Providence, dost so order even natural events, that they serve both for the good of the universe, and for the conviction of particular sinners, so that men shall have reason to acknowledge Thy glorious attributes; I do with great sorrow of heart, but with all submission to Thy good pleasure, confess Thy mercy as well as justice to me in the judgments, afflictions, sorrows, of this day.

I acknowledge Thy voice, O Merci-

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ful GOD, I acknowledge my own transgressions, which have provoked Thee to speak to me after this manner, and at this very time. O LORD, give me true repentance for all the errors of my life, and particularly for that which was, in all probability, the occasion of this affliction. Blessed be GOD, that my punishment was not as great as my crime. Blessed be GOD, that He has given me time to repent of the sin that provoked Him to deal with me after this manner. Blessed be GOD, that when He spake to me once, yea twice, that I regarded it at last. Good GOD of mercy, give me grace that I may not provoke Thee any more to repeat this word to me, but that I may faithfully perform those vows which are upon me. This I cannot do without Thy gracious assistance, which I most humbly beseech Thee to vouchsafe me, for JESUS CHRIST'S sake, Who by His merits has purchased this grace for all that faith-

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fully ask it of Thee; for His sake, O merciful GOD, grant me this grace. Amen.

I do with all humility, accept of the punishment of mine iniquities. I will hold my peace, and not open my mouth, because it is Thy doing and my deservings. I know, O LORD, that it is good for me to be in trouble, or Thou wouldst not suffer it so to be.

Let Thy merciful kindness be my comfort, according to Thy promise to all that love and serve Thee. *Amen, Amen.*

FOR PATIENCE IN TIME OF TROUBLE.

BISHOP WILSON.

O GOD, Who seest all our weaknesses, and the troubles we labour under, have regard unto the prayers of Thy

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servant, who stands in need of Thy comfort, Thy direction, and Thy help. Grant that I may suffer like a Christian, and not grieve like an unbeliever; that I may receive troubles as punishments due to my past offences, as an exercise of my faith, and patience, and humility, and as a trial of my obedience; and that I may improve all my afflictions to the good of my soul, and Thy glory.

Thou alone knowest what is best for us: let me never dispute Thy wisdom or Thy goodness.

Direct my reason, subdue my passions, put a stop to my roving thoughts and fears, and let me have the comfort of Thy promise, and of Thy protection, both now and ever, for JESUS CHRIST'S sake. *Amen.*

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PRAYER FOR PATIENCE.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ETERNAL GOD, Thou hast made me and sustained me: Thou hast blessed me in all the days of my life, and hast taken care of me in all variety of accidents; and nothing happens to me in vain, nothing without Thy Providence; and I know Thou smitest Thy servants in mercy, and with designs of the greatest pity in the world: LORD, I humbly lie down under Thy rod; do with me as Thou pleasest: do Thou choose for me, not only the whole state and condition of being, but every little and great accident of it. Keep me safe by Thy grace, and then use what instrument Thou pleasest, of bringing me to Thee. LORD, I am not solicitous of the passage, so I may

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get to Thee. Only, O LORD, remember my infirmities, and let Thy servant rejoice in Thee always, and feel and confess, and glory in Thy goodness. O be Thou as delightful to me in this my medicinal sickness, as ever Thou wert in any of the dangers of my prosperity: let me not peevishly refuse Thy pardon at the rate of a severe discipline. I am Thy servant and Thy creature, Thy purchased possession, and Thy son: I am all Thine: and because Thou hast mercy in store for all that trust in Thee, I cover mine eyes, and in silence wait for the time of my redemption. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR ONE WHO IS PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION.

MR. NELSON.

MOST Merciful GOD, by Whose gracious Providence I was born of

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Christian parents, and early dedicated to Thee in Holy Baptism, wherein I was made a member of the Catholic Church, whereof JESUS CHRIST is the Head, adopted Thy child, and entitled to the unspeakable happiness of Thy glorious Kingdom; I most heartily thank Thee for calling me to this state of salvation, and for bestowing upon me such blessed privileges. O dispose my mind, by Thy heavenly grace carefully and diligently to perform those conditions Thou requirest, to qualify me for such inestimable benefits, and that I may continue in the same unto my life's end.

And now, O LORD, that I am preparing myself to receive a further degree of Thy grace and favour, which will advance me into the number of the faithful, by being admitted to approach Thy Holy Table: I humbly beseech Thee to enlighten my mind with the true knowledge and understanding of that solemn vow which I made at my Baptism, and

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which I am now about to ratify and confirm publicly in Thy Presence; that I may constantly renounce the devil, by avoiding all those temptations with which he seeks to destroy me, and by abstaining from all those sins which partake most of his diabolical nature; that I may resist all covetous desires of honour, riches, and pleasure, and all those evil customs and maxims of the world, which alienate men's minds from the love of GOD; that I may mortify all the inordinate appetites of my own corrupt nature; that I may believe all Thy holy revelations, and keep Thy blessed will and commandments all the days of my life.

Give me, O LORD, unfeigned repentance for all my past errors; that the many and great sins which I have committed, may not deprive me of the assistances of Thy HOLY SPIRIT, which I am about to receive: but let my hearty sorrow, through the merits of CHRIST, wash away all that is past;

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and let power and strength, communicated to me from above, mortify and subdue them for the time to come. I am unable, O LORD, of myself to help myself; mercifully grant that Thy Blessed Spirit may in all things rule my heart; that, by His holy inspiration, I may think those things that are good, and by His gracious guiding may perform the same, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR A YOUNG PERSON.

SPINCKES.

O LORD, forasmuch as I am at these years, in the heat of the flesh, and in the most dangerous time of my life, I beseech Thee, take not Thy mercy and Fatherly Providence from me; but, by how much the greater danger of falling I am in, with so much the

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more care let Thy grace preserve me, lest I become a prey to the enemies of my soul, who assault me with so many temptations, that without Thy succour, I shall never, of myself, be able to overcome them. But, O Merciful FATHER, distrusting my own strength, I betake myself wholly to Thy protection; and desire Thee, both now and ever, to keep me. Let me not get that habit of sinning in my younger years, that I be forced in my age (if I be not cut off before in my offences) to bewail the sins of my youth, in the bitterness of my soul; but rather accustom me, from this time forward, to all goodness, that I may daily more and more profit therein; and that serving Thee with a pure heart now, I may be able in my age to say with good King Hezekiah, "O LORD, remember, I beseech Thee, how I have walked before Thee in truth, with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in Thy sight." Most loving

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FATHER, Who takest care of all men, I commend unto Thee my soul, as a child, that can of himself do nothing; defend me, I pray Thee, from all mine enemies, spiritual and temporal; keep my body and soul pure, chaste, and undefiled; that I offend not, either in obscene speech, impure thought, or unclean act. My chastity is a more precious jewel than I can keep, without Thy help: I therefore beseech Thee, Who hast pronounced a blessing to the pure in heart, to keep my heart pure: be Thou my guide and preserver, lest in the heat of concupiscence I forget Thee. Give me grace, O LORD, to serve Thee in peace and holiness, all the days of my life, and at the last rest with Thee in Thy Heavenly Kingdom, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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A YOUNG MAN'S PRAYER.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

O LORD, Thou hast commanded by Thy holy Apostle that every one should know how to keep his body in sanctification and honour; and not in the lust of concupiscence, as do the heathen which know not GOD. I beseech Thee, give me grace to behave myself according to this Thy holy commandment; that knowing my body to be the temple of the HOLY GHOST, and that I am not my own, I may so order myself with all honesty and pureness of life, that I may glorify Thee, my LORD GOD, both in body and spirit. *Amen.*

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A YOUNG WOMAN'S PRAYER.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

THERE is nothing that becometh a woman better than silence, modesty, and chastity of both body and mind. I therefore most humbly beseech Thee, O merciful FATHER, from Whom cometh every good and perfect gift; and without Whom we are able to do nothing, that Thou wilt so order my tongue, and dispose my talk, that I speak nothing but what shall become my state, age, and person; neither delight to hear any words that may move me to wickedness; seeing that evil communications corrupt good manners. Give me also such modesty, as may pluck me away from delighting in thinking, speaking, hearing, seeing, or doing evil; that my whole delight may be in

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virtue, in godliness, in avoiding idleness, in giving myself continually to some godly exercise; but, above all things, in thinking and speaking of Thee, in relating Thy blessed Word, and heavenly law, which is a lantern to my feet and a light to my paths; and give me grace so to order myself, in avoiding idleness and wicked company, that, my mind being free from evil passions, I may be found a meet temple for the HOLY GHOST to inhabit: unto the praise, honour, and glory of Thy Blessed Name, O LORD and SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR A MARRIED MAN.

BISHOP ANDREWES.

O GRACIOUS FATHER, Maker and Preserver of Heaven and earth, Who in the beginning didst institute matrimony, thereby foretelling the

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mystical union of the Church with our SAVIOUR CHRIST, Who, in the time of His being upon earth, did honour marriage with His first miracle; and hast appointed it also for a means whereby mankind is propagated, for a remedy to avoid unlawful lust, and for the mutual comfort and consolation of Thy children; I humbly entreat Thee to give me the assistance of Thy Divine grace, that I may live according to Thy commandments with my wife, whom Thou hast given me for my help and comfort in this world. Mortify in me all unclean, dishonest, and fleshly lusts; let not the heat of unlawful concupiscence take hold of me, but make me to be fully pleased and satisfied with her love, and to love her as CHRIST loved His Church, to cherish and comfort her as mine own body, and to have as great a care of her health, as of mine own. Grant that we may live in peace, without debate; in unity, without discord;

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like members of one body, equally desirous to praise Thy Holy Name. And give us, O LORD, discreet hearts, and understanding minds, to bring up our children in Thy faith and fear, in a religious, honest, and civil manner. Give them obedient hearts to Thee and to Thy commandments, and to all that Thou requirest of them to be performed, in duty, towards their parents. Keep them from those which are ready to seduce them; and so lead them in Thy faith, fear, and knowledge, that they prove not a curse, but a blessing unto us; and thereby attain to that blessing which Thou hast promised to those who honour and obey their parents. Grant likewise, O LORD, that I may guide and instruct the family which is under me in Thy fear: and, in an honest and careful manner, provide as well for their bodies as their souls. And give them the like grace, O LORD, to perform their duties in fear and obedience, not as eye-servants,

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but in simplicity of heart, as in Thy sight. And give us, O LORD, a competency of estate, to maintain ourselves, children, and family, according to that rank of calling, wherein Thou, of Thy goodness, hast placed us, without excess, riot, or vain glory, and in singleness and pureness of heart; with all humility relying upon Thy blessed will, Who knowest better than we ourselves what is needful for us. Grant this, O LORD, for JESUS CHRIST'S sake; to Whom with Thee, and the HOLY GHOST, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A PRAYER TO BE SAID BY A NEW-MARRIED WIFE.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ETERNAL GOD, the Father of wisdom and mercy, Thou hast been my guide and my defence all my days;

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Thou didst take me from my mother's womb, and didst conduct me through the varieties of my life with much mercy, and the issues of a loving and wise Providence; I bless Thy Name, O LORD, for all Thy dispensations; Thou hast done all things with infinite goodness and infinite wisdom: Thou hast kept me from the effects of Thy wrath, and the evils of my own infirmities; Thou didst defend me from evils by the guard of Angels, and didst lead me into good by the conduct of Thy HOLY SPIRIT: Thou hast always heard my prayer, ever being more ready to bless me than I to ask it: Thou hast said unto me, 'I will never leave thee nor forsake thee;' be therefore graciously pleased to hear the prayer of Thine handmaid, that I may have the aids of an excellent Providence and a mighty grace to do my duty in all my relations, in all varieties and changes of the world, until my great change shall come. *Amen.*

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PRAYER FOR A MARRIED WOMAN.

SPINCKES.

O MERCIFUL and loving LORD GOD, Who, in the beginning, for the propagation of mankind, didst take Eve out of the side of Adam, and give her to him as an helper; I give Thee humble thanks, that Thou hast vouchsafed to call me to the honourable state of matrimony. Give me grace, O LORD, that I may lead a life worthy thereof; that I may love my husband with a pure and chaste love, acknowledge him for my head, and truly reverence and obey him in all good things; that thereby I may please him, and live quietly with him. Help me, O LORD, that I may, under him, prudently and discreetly guide and govern his household and family; and carefully look, that nothing be either carelessly wasted, or wickedly

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committed in my house. Fit me with those good graces which the wise man describeth in a good woman, and St. Peter in holy and sanctified matrons. Give me such a care concerning the education of my children, as belongeth to my part; that I may live to see them prosper in this life, and afterwards be received with them to Thy eternal kingdom, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR FRUITFULNESS.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O MOST gracious and eternal GOD, FATHER and LORD of all the creatures, Thou didst sanctify marriage in the state of innocence, in the dwellings of paradise, and didst design it for the production of mankind, and didst give it as one of the first

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blessings of mankind. O be pleased to look upon Thy handmaid who waits for Thy mercy, and humbly begs of Thy infinite goodness to make me partaker of that blessing which Thou didst design to all the sons and daughters of Adam: Thou, O GOD, hast the keys of heaven and hell, of rain and providence, of the womb and the grave: O let not Thy servant feel the curse of dry breasts and a barren womb; but make me a joyful mother of children; that Thy handmaid may serve Thee in increasing the number of Thy redeemed ones, and may minister blessings to this family into which Thou hast adopted me, and may bring comfort to my dear husband, whom do Thou bless and love, and sanctify for ever. *Amen*.

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A PRAYER TO BE USED BY WOMEN WITH CHILD.

BISHOP COSIN.

ALMIGHTY GOD, the FATHER of all mercy and comfort, of Whose only gift it is, that the womb becometh fruitful: graciously behold me, Thine humble and unworthy handmaid; that as by Thy good Providence I have conceived a child within my womb, into which Thou hast breathed a spirit of life, so, by Thy continual aid, I may be preserved with it from all perils; and at the fulness of my time may safely bring forth into the world, to the joy and comfort of my own soul, and to the glory of Thy Holy Name, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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FOR WOMEN LABOURING WITH CHILD.

SPINCKES.

O ETERNAL GOD, Thou FATHER of Lights, from Whom cometh every good and perfect gift, and Who hast promised to hearken to those that call upon Thee in their necessities, hear the supplications of Thine handmaid, who feel my travail coming upon me, and cry unto Thee in the anguish of my soul. The faster my pangs come upon me, the more I beg Thou wilt exert Thy strength for my ease, that I be not overwhelmed with the weight of them. Consider my impotency, and support and deliver me; forsake me not when my strength faileth me, when my spirits faint and I cannot bear the burden of my sorrows without Thy

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assistance. Forgive my sins, O LORD, and moderate my pains, if it be Thy blessed will. As Thou hast given me power to conceive, grant me likewise strength to bring forth, that I may be a joyful mother of a child, endued with a sound and perfect body, complete in all its parts, and fitted for all its proper operations; and with an understanding capable, at length, of knowing Thee, and a will disposed, in due time, to fear and love Thee. Grant that we may both serve Thee faithfully in our generation; and whensoever Thou shalt see fit to take either of us out of this world, be graciously pleased to make us partakers of Thine everlasting kingdom, for the love of JESUS CHRIST our LORD; to Whom with Thee, and the HOLY GHOST, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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PRAYER FOR A WIDOW.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ETERNAL GOD, most gracious LORD, and my most merciful FATHER, Thou art my refuge and my hope, my sanctuary and my rock, my guardian and protector, all my days. I have offended Thee, and Thou hast smitten me: I have deserved very much evil, and Thou hast corrected me with the gentle visitation of a father's rod: and though Thy hand is heavy, and Thy rod presseth me sore, by reason of my own weakness and infirmities, yet when I consider how little I suffer in respect of what I have deserved, I cannot but adore Thy goodness, and delight in Thy mercies, and run for help and comfort, support and conduct, to that hand which smites me. O my GOD, give me patience under Thy afflicting hand: for my impatience, I fear, hath

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provoked Thee to anger, and hath doubled my own calamity; and since my duty is my proper cure, and will make Thy hand easy, and Thy anger little; give Thy servant a quiet and a resigned, an humble and a meek spirit, that I may not become mine own tormentor, and my sin may not be my own punishment.

Preserve me Thy servant from all evil, lead me into all good; change my sorrows into comforts, my infirmity into spiritual strength; take all iniquity from me, and let Thy servant never depart from Thee. I am Thine, O save me; I am Thine, sanctify me and preserve me for ever: that neither life nor death, health nor sickness, prosperity nor adversity, weakness within nor cross accidents without, may ever separate me from the love of GOD, which is in CHRIST JESUS our LORD. *Amen*, Blessed JESUS, *Amen*.

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FOR HEALTH.

BISHOP COSIN.

O GOD, the FATHER of Lights, from Whom cometh down every good and perfect gift; mercifully look upon my frailty and infirmity, and grant me such health of body, as Thou knowest to be needful for me; that both in my body and soul I may evermore serve Thee with all my strength and might, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR A BLESSING ON THE USE OF MEDICINE.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O MOST Blessed and Eternal JESUS, the great physician of our souls, the

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sun of righteousness arising with healing in Thy wings, Who disposest every great and little accident to the glory of GOD, and to the comfort of them that love and serve Him; be pleased to bless the ministry of Thy servant in order to mine ease and health, direct his judgment, prosper the medicines, and dispose the chances of my sickness fortunately, that I may feel the blessing and loving-kindness of the LORD in the ease or prevention of pain, and the restitution or preservation of health; and being restored to the society of the living and to Thy solemn assemblies, I may praise Thee and Thy goodness secretly among the faithful, and in the congregation of the redeemed ones, here in the outer courts of the LORD, and hereafter in Thine eternal Temple. *Amen.*

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IN PRISON.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O LORD, have mercy upon me, and bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks unto Thy Name, even in JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

O LORD, blessed is the man that hath Thee for his help, and whose hope is in Thee. O LORD, help me and all them to right that suffer wrong. Thou art the LORD, Which looseth men out of prison, Which helpest them that are fallen. O LORD, help and deliver me, when and as it shall seem best to Thee, even for JESUS CHRIST His sake. *Amen.*

O LORD, Thine indignation lies hard upon me; and though Thou hast not

(for Thy mercy is great) vexed me with all Thy storms, yet Thou hast put my acquaintance far from me, and I am so fast in prison that I cannot get forth. LORD, I call daily upon Thee; hear, and have mercy, for JESUS CHRIST His sake. *Amen.*

O LORD, Thou which bringest the prisoners out of captivity, while Thou lettest the runagates continue in scarceness; have mercy upon me, and deliver me out of the prison and affliction in which I now am; and give me grace, that being free, I may faithfully and freely serve Thee all the days of my life, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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MARTYRDOM.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

LORD, make me remember the bones of Thy Saints, how they lie scattered before the pit, even as when one heweth wood upon the earth. O LORD, mine eyes look unto Thee, in Thee is my trust, O cast not out my soul. And if my bones also must be broken, O LORD, I beseech Thee, give me courage and abundance of patience, that no torment may make my faith fall away from Thee, for JESUS CHRIST His sake. *Amen.*

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PRAYER FOR THE GRACE OF HABITUAL PREPARATION FOR DEATH.

HELE.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, the FATHER of the spirits of all flesh! Whose never-failing Providence ordereth all things both in heaven and earth, I desire with the deepest humility and reverence to prostrate both soul and body before Thee, begging that Thou wouldst give me grace to make a right use and improvement of all Thy dispensations towards myself and all mankind. I acknowledge it of Thy bounty alone that I had my being; and I adore Thy mercy and long-suffering for preserving me thus long in the land of the living. My many days and years of health and comfort were Thy gift; and my

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deliverances out of the troubles and dangers wherewith I have at any time been afflicted, as well as the prevention of those which I have never felt, are owing to Thee alone. Man doth not live by bread and care, but by the word and blessing which proceedeth out of the mouth of GOD.

Grant me, I beseech Thee, a due sense of mine entire dependence upon Thee, and grace to behave myself in conformity thereto. Inspire me with that true and heavenly wisdom, which may help me to discern aright the reasons, and enable me to answer the ends of all Thy dealings with me; that in all conditions I may submit myself entirely to Thy good pleasure, and glorify GOD in the day of visitation.

And since it is appointed for all men once to die, and after that the judgment; suffer me not, I pray Thee, to forget that I am a stranger upon earth; but help me to disengage

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my heart from the things here below, which cannot profit in the day of wrath; that my hopes and mine affections may be unalterably fixed upon those better things above, those eternal treasures which Thou hast prepared for them that love Thee. Let the thoughts and certain expectation of death and judgment be so constantly, so powerfully present to my soul, that in what hour soever my LORD shall come, I may be found ready to meet Him, and to go in with Him to the marriage. Even so, O Blessed JESUS, grant me in such manner to pass through things temporal, that I finally lose not the things eternal, but may faithfully use and improve Thy grace here, till grace at last be consummated in glory, and I translated to my Master's joy. All which I beg for Thine own merit's sake, mine only MEDIATOR and REDEEMER; to Whom with the FATHER, and the HOLY SPIRIT, be ascribed, as is most due,

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all honour and glory, dominion and power, thanksgiving and praise, and humble adoration, henceforth and for evermore. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR A BLESSED DEATH.

HELE.

O ETERNAL and everlasting GOD, Who didst at first breathe into man the breath of life; and when Thou takest away that breath he dies, and is turned again to his dust; look with compassion, I beseech Thee, upon me Thy creature; and let Thy good Spirit work in me whatsoever Thou seest wanting to fit and prepare me for the time of my dissolution.

Give me that sincere and earnest repentance, to which Thou hast promised mercy and pardon. Wean my heart from the world, and all its fading vanities; and make me to

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pant after those more excellent and durable joys which are at Thy right hand for ever. LORD, lift Thou up the light of Thy countenance upon me: and in all the pains of my body, and all the agonies of my spirit, let Thy comforts refresh my soul, and enable me patiently to wait till my change come.

And grant, O LORD, that when mine earthly house of this tabernacle is dissolved, I may have a building of GOD, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens; and that for His sake, Who by His precious death hath purchased for all believers a sure and certain title to everlasting life, JESUS CHRIST, Thine only SON our LORD. *Amen.*

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PRAYER FOR PEACE AND COMFORT IN THE HOUR OF DEATH.

HELE.

O ALMIGHTY LORD, FATHER of mercies, and GOD of all comfort, our only help in time of need; I beseech Thee to accept the devout prayers and supplications which I now offer up to Thy Divine Majesty, with respect to the time of my greatest extremity, the last and most important conflict of my life. Do Thou, then, O LORD, look graciously upon Thy servant, and visit me with Thy salvation: send me help from above, and deliver me from the snares and terrors of the wicked one: sustain mine agonies with the peaceful comforts of a quiet and good conscience, and of perfect reconciliation with Thee my GOD. LORD, as Thou bringest me nearer to

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Thyself, so let my love and my desires of Thee be stronger. And oh! that it may please Thee in Thine abundant mercy, to afford me some sweet foretaste of future bliss, that I may triumph even in death itself. But if in this I know not what I ask, yet at least suffer not my faith to be shaken, nor Thy loving-kindness to fail. And however Thou dealest with this corruptible body, let my soul, I beseech Thee, be precious in Thy sight; and the more the outward man decays, strengthen me so much the more continually with Thy grace and HOLY SPIRIT in the inner man. Give me unfeigned repentance for all the errors of my life past, and stedfast faith in Thy SON JESUS, that my sins may be done away by Thy mercy, and my pardon sealed in Heaven before I go hence and be no more seen.

In Thy mercy, O LORD, I put my full trust; in Thy mercy alone, and in the merits and sufferings of my

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crucified SAVIOUR. So fit and prepare me, I beseech Thee, for the hour of death, that my departure hence may be in peace, and in Thy favour, and my soul may be received into those heavenly habitations, where the souls of them that sleep in the LORD JESUS enjoy perpetual rest and felicity; and that at the resurrection of the just my body may be re-united to my soul, and fashioned like unto CHRIST'S glorious Body; and I may be admitted into the everlasting kingdom of glory; through the merits and mediation of JESUS CHRIST, Thine only SON, our LORD and SAVIOUR. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR A HOLY AND HAPPY DEATH.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ETERNAL and Holy JESUS, Who by Thy Death hast overcome death,

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and by Thy Passion hast taken out its sting, and made it to become one of the gates of heaven, and an entrance to felicity; have mercy upon me now, and at the hour of my death. Let Thy grace accompany me all the days of my life, that I may, by a holy conversation and an habitual performance of my duty, wait for the coming of our LORD, and be ready to enter with Thee at whatever hour Thou shalt come. LORD let not my death be in any sense unprovided, nor untimely, nor hasty, but after the manner of men, having in it nothing extraordinary, but an extraordinary piety, and the manifestation of a great and miraculous mercy. Let my senses and my understanding be preserved entire till the last of my days; and grant that I may die the death of the righteous, free from debt and deadly sin, having first discharged all my obligations of justice, leaving none miserable and unprovided in my departure; but be Thou the por-

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tion of all my friends and relatives, and let Thy blessing descend upon their heads, and abide there, till they shall meet me in the bosom of our LORD. Preserve me ever in the communion and peace of the Church; and bless my death-bed with the opportunity of a holy and a spiritual guide, with the assistance and guard of Angels, with the reception of the Holy Sacrament, with patience and dereliction of my own desires, with a strong faith, and a firm and humble hope, with just measures of repentance, and great treasures of charity to Thee, my GOD, and to all the world; that my soul, in the arms of the Holy JESUS, may be deposited with safety and joy, there to expect the revelation of Thy day, and then to partake the glories of Thy Kingdom, O eternal and Holy JESUS. *Amen.*

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PRAYER FOR A GOOD ANSWER IN THE DAY OF ACCOUNT.

HELE.

O ALMIGHTY and Eternal GOD! the Creator of all things! Who hast made my days upon earth as it were a span long, and mine age even as nothing in respect of Thee; give me grace, I humbly beseech Thee, to live under such a constant sense of my mortality, and of the shortness and uncertainty of this present life; that death may never surprise me in an hour when I am not aware: but being always provided with oil in my lamp, I may be ready whenever the bridegroom shall come, to enter with Him into the marriage feast; and receive a blessing among those who watch and wait for the coming of their LORD; to

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Whom with Thee and the HOLY GHOST, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR A JOYFUL RESURRECTION.

HELE.

O MERCIFUL GOD, the FATHER of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, Who is the Resurrection and the Life; in Whom whosoever believeth shall live, though he die; and whosoever liveth and believeth in Him, shall not die eternally: I meekly beseech Thee, O FATHER, to raise me from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness, that when I shall depart this life I may rest in Him, as all Thy faithful departed do; and that at the general resurrection in the last day, I may be found acceptable in Thy sight, and receive the blessing which Thy well-

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beloved SON shall then pronounce on all that love and fear Thee, saying, "Come ye blessed children of My FATHER, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world:" Grant this, I beseech Thee, O Merciful FATHER, through JESUS CHRIST our MEDIATOR and REDEEMER. *Amen.*

PRAYER THAT WE MAY BE ENTITLED TO THE BENEFITS OF CHRIST'S SUFFERINGS AND DEATH.

HELE.

O ETERNAL SON of GOD! the brightness of Thy FATHER'S Glory, and the express image of His Person! GOD blessed for ever! Who, to save sinful men, wast pleased to become man, and to be all Thy life long a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief!

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persecuted, rejected, and at last crucified as a malefactor! favourably, with mercy behold Thy servant, whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy most precious Blood.

Thou that hast taken away the sins of the world! Who hast abolished and overcome death! and destroyed him that had the power of it! Have mercy upon me: and by Thy precious Death and Passion, deliver me from this body of sin and death.

By the merit of Thy most bitter sufferings, by all the love Thou hast shown to the children of men, I humbly beseech Thee, O LORD, look graciously upon me; and intercede for me with the FATHER, that for Thy sake He may be gracious unto me, and forgive me all my sins, and lift up the light of His countenance upon me.

And grant, O Blessed SAVIOUR, that I may always bear in my mind such a devout remembrance and feeling of Thy bitter Passion, as may be

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a powerful protection of my soul against all the assaults of my spiritual adversaries; and effectually engage me to crucify the flesh with the affections and lusts; and to run with patience the race which Thou hast set before me, evermore looking unto Thee, the Captain of our salvation, Who wast made perfect through suffering; and Who, for the joy that was set before Thee, didst endure the cross, despising the shame, and art now set down on the right hand of the throne of glory.

And I beseech Thee, O Blessed JESUS! let the sense of Thy wonderful love in thus dying for my sake inflame my soul with such an invincible love of Thee, and with such an ardent zeal for Thy glory, that if ever Thy Providence should make it my duty, I may readily and cheerfully embrace death, though armed with the utmost terrors, rather than forsake Thee. Inspire me with courage and resolution from above, that

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no difficulties or dangers may ever affright me from Thy service; and that the apprehension of them may never transport me beyond the bounds of Christian decency and moderation. "LORD, whither shall I go? Thou hast the words of eternal life!"

O let the firm belief of the immortal joys and the glorious rewards Thou hast prepared for those that suffer for Thee, support me under all trials and temptations, that I may be a follower of them, who through faith and patience inherit the promises. Make me careful to *do* Thy holy will, that I may have comfort and joy, if need be, in *suffering* for it. Grant this, O Blessed LORD, Who didst willingly lay down Thy life for me, and didst rise again from the dead, and now sittest at the right hand of the FATHER to intercede for all Thy faithful disciples. *Amen.*

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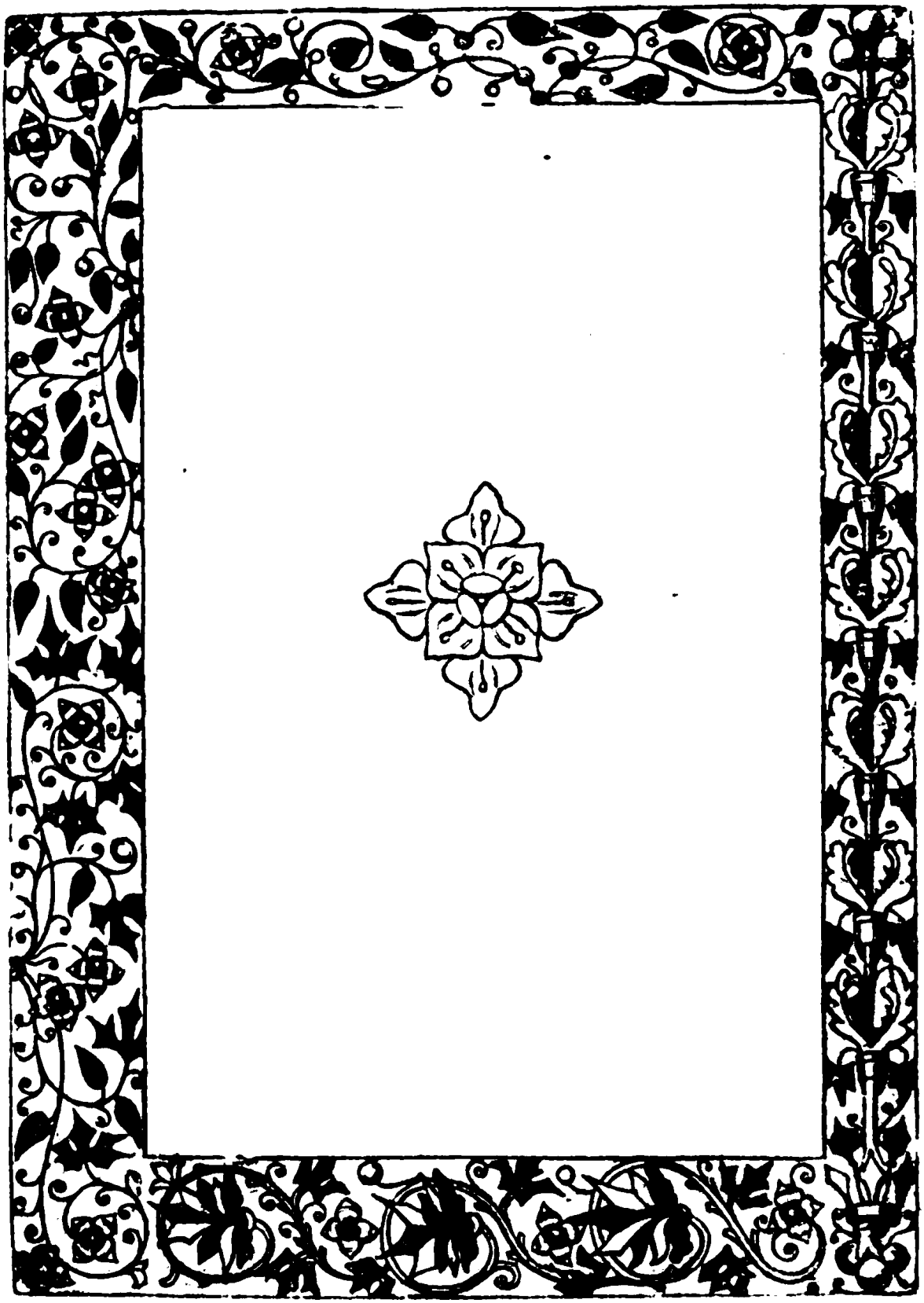
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ENGLISH CHURCHMEN.

COMPILED AND ARRANGED BY

FRANCIS E. PAGET, M.A.,

RECTOR OF ELFORD.

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AND WE WORSHIP THY NAME: EVER WORLD WITHOUT END."

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MDCCCXLVII.

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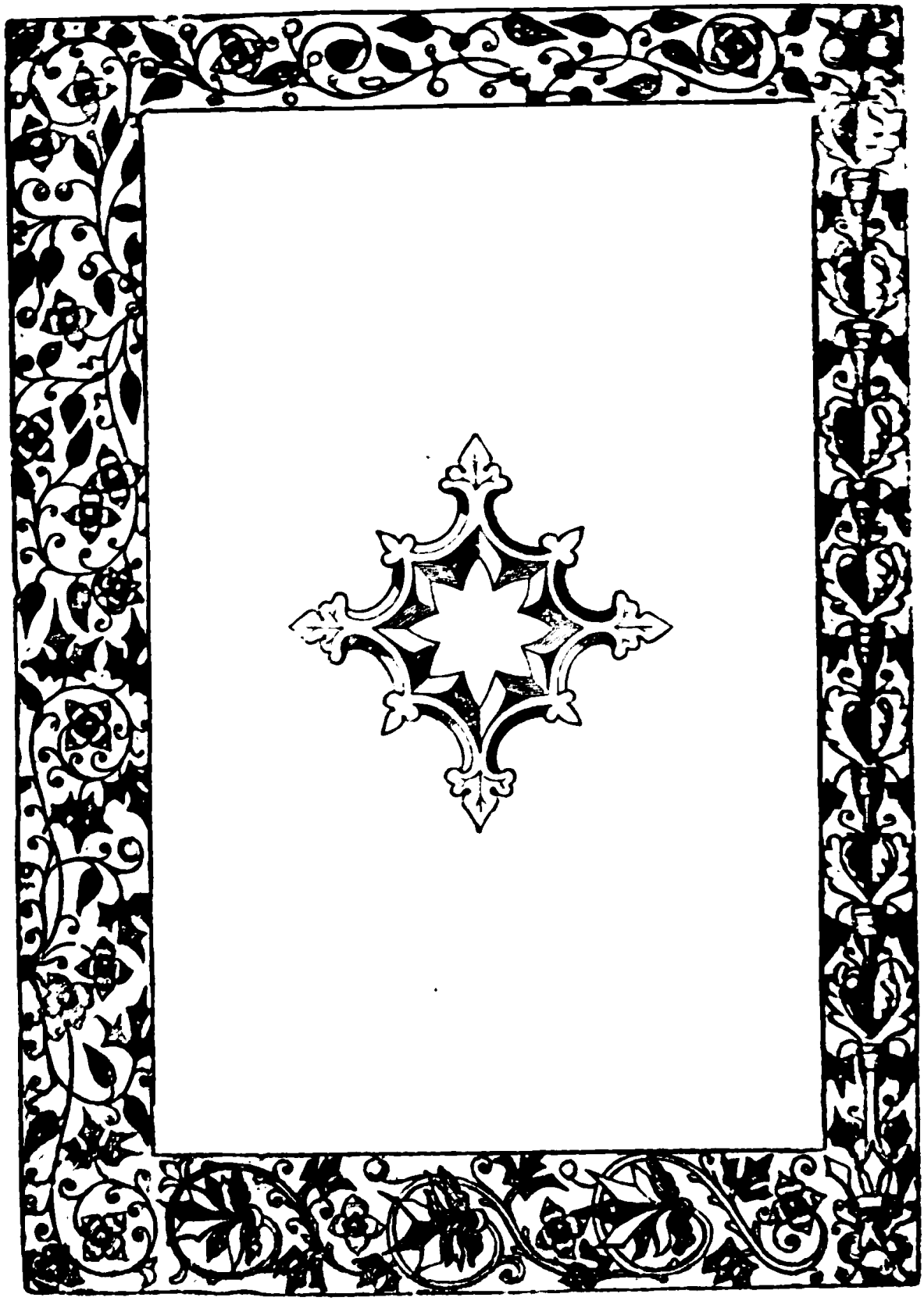
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Prayers

for

Gifts, Graces, &c.

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IF THOU SHALT CONFESS WITH THY MOUTH THE LORD JESUS, AND SHALT BELIEVE IN THINE HEART THAT GOD HATH RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD, THOU SHALT BE SAVED.

FOR WITH THE HEART MAN BELIEVETH UNTO RIGHTEOUSNESS: AND WITH THE MOUTH CONFESSION IS MADE UNTO SALVATION.

ROMANS X. 9, 10.

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Prayers

for

Gifts, Graces, &c.

For the use of the Clergy.

PRAYER FOR A FAITHFUL DISCHARGE OF MINISTERIAL DUTIES.

HELE.

ALMIGHTY GOD, the giver of every good gift, Who hast appointed divers orders of ministers in Thy Church, mercifully look upon me, Thy most unworthy servant, whom of Thy Divine Providence Thou hast called to the holy office of the priesthood; and vouchsafe me, I beseech Thee, all those gifts and graces of Thy Holy

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Spirit, which may enable me to perform the duties of my important calling, and to discharge aright the great trust committed to me in it. Give me, O LORD, the spirit of knowledge and understanding; that I may be apt to teach, and skilful to direct and bring up all those, who are under my care, in the nurture and admonition of the LORD. Give me the spirit of wisdom and counsel; that I may instruct with meekness, admonish with prudence, rebuke with authority, and minister suitable assistance to their several necessities.

LORD, make me diligent and industrious in all parts of my sacred functions; that I may give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine; that I may meditate on these things, and give myself wholly to them. Possess my mind with a just and tender regard for those precious souls committed to my charge; that I may watch over them with a faithful and true heart, as one that must

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give an account; that I may do it with joy and not with grief. And because the form of knowledge, and of godliness without the power, will neither be profitable to me, nor to those that hear me; grant me Thy grace, that I may take heed to myself as well as to my instructions; that while I teach others, I myself may not be a cast-away; but may show myself in all things a pattern of good works, an example to my flock in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity; that my profiting may appear unto all for their edification. Neither pray I for myself alone, but for those also over whom Thou hast been pleased to appoint me Thy minister. Sanctify them, Holy FATHER, with Thy truth, and preserve them in it; that not one of them may be lost in the day of the LORD JESUS. Make them of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD, which is the beginning of wisdom; that they may first seek Thy kingdom,

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and the righteousness thereof. And put Thy laws, I beseech Thee, into their minds, and write them in their hearts, that they may all know Thee from the least to the greatest, and daily improve in this saving knowledge. Give them a ready apprehension and a retentive memory, that they may receive and keep all profitable instructions; and a diligent and tractable disposition, that they may observe and practise them.

O LORD, bless and prosper our joint endeavours; and grant that after an honest and faithful discharge of our respective duties, in that state of life which Thou hast appointed for us, we may receive the end of our faith, even the salvation of our souls; through the merits and mediation of Thy Blessed SON JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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FOR THE USE OF THE CLERGY.

HELE.

O LORD, Who hast been pleased of Thy special grace and favour to call me, Thy most unworthy servant, to the holy office of priesthood, and to entrust me with the cure of souls, give me grace, I humbly beseech Thee, diligently to discharge the weighty office which Thou hast called me to, and to be a faithful and industrious labourer in Thy vineyard. Enrich mine understanding with the knowledge of Thy truth; and so replenish my soul with the gifts and graces of Thy blessed Spirit, that I may be thoroughly furnished to vindicate and defend the Apostolical doctrine and discipline of Thy holy Church, and to feed the flock which Thou hast set me over, with the wholesome food of Thy Word.

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O LORD, help me to take diligent heed to my ministry, and conscientiously to apply myself to fulfil all the duties of it. Give me a mind after Thine own heart, that I may delight to do Thy will, O my GOD: and whatever I do in word or deed, grant I may do it, not with eye-service as a pleaser of men, but with singleness of heart and a willing mind as the servant of CHRIST, Who will one day call me to a strict account for every soul committed to my charge.

O Almighty and Merciful LORD, Who knowest to how important and difficult a work Thou hast called Thy sinful and most unworthy servant, I humbly and earnestly beseech Thee to consider my weakness, and the manifold temptations and dangers that encompass me on every side. And O let Thy Holy Spirit of grace be ever present with me to direct and govern me, to strengthen and assist me, to animate and invigorate me

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throughout the whole course of my duty, and to fortify my soul with such degrees of patience, and meekness, and prudence, and courage, and industry, that I may never be weary of doing the work of the LORD, because I know that my labour will not be in vain in the LORD.

And, O Thou, Who art the sole Ruler and Disposer of the event and issue of all human endeavours, give Thy blessing, I beseech Thee, to my labours, that they may be instrumental to the advancement of Thy glory, the edification of Thy Church, and the everlasting salvation of mine own soul, and the souls of many others. LORD, hear my prayer for JESUS CHRIST's sake. *Amen.*

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FOR THE USE OF THE CLERGY.

BISHOP WILSON.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Who hast made me a guide to others, suffer me not to go astray myself; give me grace that I may never follow the inclinations of corrupted nature, nor govern myself according to the maxims of an evil world; but give me the spirit, as well as the character, of a minister of JESUS CHRIST. O HOLY SPIRIT of grace, sanctify my heart, that no base or impure thoughts, no mean and covetous affections, may lodge there. Govern my tongue, that no corrupt communication may proceed out of my mouth.

Guard my eyes, purify my hands, guide my feet. Conduct my whole life, that by all instances of a good example, I may lead the people committed to my care in the ways of

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truth, and of eternal life; and that no irregularity in my conversation may ever make my instructions ineffectual, or the ways of religion to be evil spoken of.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, without Whom we can do nothing, be Thou my advocate with GOD, as well as my example, that I may live and be as Thou wouldst have me. *Amen.*

FOR THE USE OF THE CLERGY.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O LORD, as the rain cometh down from heaven, and returns not thither, but waters the earth, and makes it bud and bring forth, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to him that eateth; so let Thy word be that goeth out my mouth, let it not return to me void, but accomplish that which Thou wilt, and prosper in the

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thing whereto Thou hast sent it, that the people committed to my charge may go out with joy, and be led forth in peace to Thy freshest waters of comfort, in JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

O SON of GOD, Thou which takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon me in this heavy charge. *Amen.*

FOR THE USE OF THE CLERGY.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O BLESSED JESU, Thou that art an Eternal Priest, and Intercessor, and the Fountain of all ghostly good, have mercy upon this parish which Thou hast concredited to my charge. LORD, I am unfit for so great a burden, but by Thy aid and gracious acceptance I hope for mercy, pardon, and assistance. O LORD, send Thy

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HOLY SPIRIT to dwell among us: let here be peace and charity, and true Catholic religion, and holy discipline. Comfort the comfortless, heal the sick, relieve the oppressed, enlighten the ignorant, correct the unruly, keep us all from all deadly sin: that so from Thy favour we may obtain blessings in our bodies, in our souls, in our estates, and a supply to all our necessities, till at last we attain, through Thy merits, to the full fruition of Thy everlasting glories, O Blessed SAVIOUR and REDEEMER. *Amen.*

Anniversaries.

A PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING UPON THE ANNIVERSARY OF ONE'S BIRTH.

BISHOP COSIN.

ALMIGHTY GOD, the FATHER and Maker of all things, by Whose

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blessed goodness I was fearfully and wonderfully made in my mother's womb, and unto Whose blessed Providence I have been left ever since I was born, and hung upon my mother's breast; I praise and magnify Thy glorious Name for this Thy great goodness towards me: most humbly beseeching Thee that I may be taught to number my days, and to apply my heart unto wisdom; that I may know to what end I was born, and had both body and life given me, even to serve Thee the Living GOD; that I may bewail my sinful years past, and spend the rest of my time here in a godly, righteous, and sober life; that as I have now finished —— years of my life in Thy favour, so I may continue and finish up the remainder of my days in Thy fear; and that, as Thou didst upon this day take me out of my mother's womb to live here a little time, so Thou mayest at the last day take me out of my mother's womb again, even

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the grave and the womb of the earth, to live with Thee for ever, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

PRAYER ON THE RETURN OF A BIRTHDAY.

DR. JOHNSON.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting GOD, in Whose hands are life and death, by Whose will all things were created, and by Whose Providence they are sustained, I Thine unworthy servant return Thee most humble and hearty thanks for that Thou hast given me life, and that Thou hast continued it to this time; that Thou hast hitherto forborne to snatch me away in the midst of sin and folly, and hast permitted me still to enjoy the means of grace, and vouchsafed to call me yet again to repentance. Grant, O merciful LORD, that Thy call may not be vain;

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that my life may not be continued to increase my guilt, and that Thy gracious forbearance may not harden my heart in wickedness. Let me remember, O my GOD, that as days and years pass over me, I approach nearer to the grave where there is no repentance; and grant that by the assistance of Thy HOLY SPIRIT I may so pass through this life, that I may obtain life everlasting, for the sake of our LORD JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

PRAYER ON A BIRTHDAY.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O BLESSED and eternal GOD, I give Thee praise and glory for Thy great mercy to me, in causing me to be born of Christian parents, and didst not allot to me a portion with mis-

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believers and heathen that have not known Thee. Thou didst not suffer me to be strangled at the gate of the womb, but Thy hand sustained me and brought me to the light of the world, and the illumination of baptism, with Thy grace preventing my election, and by an artificial necessity and holy prevention engaging me to the profession and practices of Christianity. LORD, since that, I have broken the promises made in my behalf, and which I confirmed by my after-act; I went back from them by an evil life: and yet Thou hast still continued to me life and time of repentance; and didst not cut me off in the beginning of my days, and the progress of my sins. O dearest GOD, pardon the errors and ignorances, the vices and vanities of my youth, and the faults of my more forward years, and let me never more stain the whiteness of my baptismal robe: and now that by Thy grace I still persist in the purposes of obedience, and do

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give up my name to CHRIST, and glory to be a disciple of Thy institution, and a servant of JESUS, let me never fail of Thy grace; let no root of bitterness spring up, and disorder my purposes and defile my spirit. O let my years be so many degrees of nearer approach to Thee: and forsake me not, O GOD, in my old age, when I am gray-headed; and when my strength faileth me, be Thou my strength and my guide unto death; that I may reckon my years, and apply my heart unto wisdom; and at last, after the spending a holy and a blessed life, I may be brought unto a glorious eternity, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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A PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING UPON THE ANNIVERSARY OF OUR BAPTISM.

BISHOP COSIN.

O LORD, Heavenly FATHER, Almighty and everlasting GOD, Who of Thine infinite goodness towards me, when I was born in sin, and was no other than an heir of everlasting wrath, didst vouchsafe that I should, as upon this day, be born again of water and the HOLY GHOST, in the blessed laver of Baptism, being thereby made a member of CHRIST, and an heir of eternal life: For this Thine inestimable favour I do here gratefully commemorate that happy day, and in most humble and hearty will, I do extol the abundant riches of Thy glorious grace, in Thy sight, and in the sight of Thy Holy Angels, with

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all the company of heaven, renewing that sacred vow which was then made in my name, to forsake this wicked world, and to live as a Christian ought to do, in obedience to Thy holy faith and commandments; most humbly beseeching Thee, of Thy great mercy to pardon me all former breaches of my solemn promise, and to endue me with the assistance of Thy HOLY SPIRIT, that henceforth I may walk in newness of life, worthy of that blessed estate whereunto Thou hast called me; and keeping myself unspotted of the world, the flesh, and the devil, I may die daily unto sin, for which cause I was baptized into the death of CHRIST; and as I have had my part this day in the first regeneration, so I may at the last day have my part in the second and great regeneration of the world, to live and reign with Thee for ever, through the merits of JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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PRAYER ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF A FATHER.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O ETERNAL GOD and merciful FATHER, with Whom do rest the souls of them that die in Thy faith and favour; have mercy upon me, and grant that my life may be a preparation to die, and my death an entrance to life with Thee; as upon this day it pleased Thee to take my dear father to Thy mercy, when I was yet young. O LORD, he was Thy servant, Thy meek, humble, faithful servant; and I assure myself he is in rest, and light, and blessedness. LORD, while I am here behind in my pilgrimage, shower down Thy grace upon me. Thou hast been more than a father to me; Thou hast not suffered me to want a father; no, not

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when Thou hadst taken him from me. O be pleased to be a father still, and by Thy grace to keep me within the bounds of a son's obedience. Thou hast given me temporal blessings beyond desert or hope; O be graciously pleased to heap spiritual blessings on me, that I may grow in faith, obedience, and thankfulness to Thee; that I may make it my joy to perform duty to Thee. And after my painful life ended, bring me, I beseech Thee, to Thy joys, to Thy glory, to Thyself; that I and my parents, with all Thy Saints and servants departed this life, may meet in a blessed glorious resurrection, ever to sing praises and honour to Thee, in and through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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PRAYER ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF A CHRISTIAN FRIEND.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

ALMIGHTY GOD, with Whom do live the spirits of them that depart hence in the LORD, we adore Thy Majesty, and submit to Thy providence, and revere Thy justice, and magnify Thy mercies, that it hath pleased Thee to deliver our *(brother or sister)* whose departure on this day we call to mind, from the miseries of this sinful world; Thy counsels are secret, and Thy wisdom infinite. With the same hand wherewith, as we humbly trust, Thou hast crowned *him*, Thou hast smitten us; Thou hast taken *him* (as we have good hope) into the regions of felicity, and placed *him* amongst Saints and Angels, whilst Thou hast

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left us to mourn for our sins and Thy displeasure. LORD, turn Thine anger into mercy, Thy rod into comforts; and we humbly beseech Thee of Thy gracious goodness shortly to satisfy the longing desires of those holy souls who pray, and wait, and long for Thy second coming. Accomplish Thou the number of Thine elect, and fill up the mansions in heaven which are prepared for all them that love the coming of the LORD JESUS, that we, with this our *brother*, and all others departed this life in the obedience and faith of the LORD JESUS, may have our perfect consummation and bliss in Thy eternal glory, which shall never have ending. Grant this for JESUS CHRIST'S sake, our LORD and SAVIOUR. *Amen.*

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Acts of Faith.

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WITH THE HEART MAN BELIEVETH UNTO RIGHTEOUSNESS; AND WITH THE MOUTH CONFESSION IS MADE UNTO SALVATION.

ROMANS X. 10.

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Acts of Faith.

AN ACT OF FAITH.

BISHOP ANDREWES.

I BELIEVE in Thee, the FATHER:

Behold, then, if Thou be a FATHER, and we be children, like as a father pitieth his children, so pity Thou us, O LORD.

I believe in Thee, the LORD:

Behold, then, if Thou be LORD, and we be servants, our eyes wait upon Thee, our LORD, until Thou have mercy upon us.

I believe that, although we were neither children nor servants, but only dogs, we might yet

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be allowed to eat of the crumbs which fall from Thy table.

I believe that CHRIST is the Lamb of GOD:

O Lamb of GOD, That takest away the sins of the world, take away mine also.

I believe that JESUS CHRIST came into the world to save sinners:

Thou, Who camest to save sinners, save me also, the first and the chief of sinners.

I believe that CHRIST came to save that which was lost:

Thou Who camest to save that which was lost, suffer not that to be lost, which Thou hast saved.

I believe that the HOLY GHOST is the LORD and Giver of life:

Thou Who hast given me a living soul, grant that I may not receive my soul in vain.

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I believe that the SPIRIT imparteth grace in His holy mysteries:

Grant that I receive not His grace nor the hope of His blessed sacraments, in vain.

I believe that the SPIRIT Himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered;

Of that His intercession, and of those His unutterable groanings, make me partaker, O LORD.

Our fathers trusted in Thee; they trusted, and Thou didst deliver them. They cried unto Thee, and were delivered; they trusted in Thee, and were not confounded.

As in the old time Thou didst deliver our fathers, so likewise deliver us, O LORD, who put our trust in Thee.

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AN ACT OF FAITH.

BISHOP ANDREWES.

I believe and acknowledge,

In the FATHER, His paternal affection;

In the ALMIGHTY, His saving power;

In the CREATOR, His providence, whereby the world is preserved, governed, and perfected.

In JESUS, His salvation;

In CHRIST, His holy unction;

In the only SON, adoption;

In the LORD, a master's care.

In His conception and nativity, the purification of our impure conception and nativity.

In His sufferings, those evils turned away, which we most righteously have deserved.

In His cross, the curse of the law abolished.

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In His death, the sting of death abolished.

In His burial, our final corruption in the grave, abolished.

In His descent, that we are saved from going whither we merit to go;

In His resurrection, the first-fruits offered of them that sleep;

In His ascension, that He goeth to prepare a place for us;

In His seat at the right hand, His willingness to make intercession for us;

In His second coming, His reception of His own to Himself;

In His judgment, the reward of every man according to his works.

In the HOLY GHOST, His power from on high, secretly and invisibly, yet effectually and undeniably, converting unto holiness.

In the Church, the mystical body of those, who are called from all the quarters of the world unto a brotherhood in faith and godliness.

In the communion of Saints, the

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mutual participation in sanctification, vouchsafed to every member of that mystical body, unto an assurance of the remission of sins, and unto a hope of resurrection from the dead, and of exaltation unto life eternal.

I trust in Thy mercy, O GOD, for ever and ever.

How excellent is Thy loving-kindness, O GOD.

If I have any hope, it is in Thy mercy: let me not be ashamed of this my hope.

AN ACT OF FAITH.

BISHOP ANDREWES.

I believe in Thee, O LORD.

The FATHER,
The WORD,
The SPIRIT,
} One GOD.

1. That by Thy Fatherly mercy and power all things were created.

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That by Thy goodness and love towards man all things are restored.

2. In Thy Word: Who for us men and for our salvation was made flesh; was conceived, was born, suffered and was crucified, dead and buried; He descended, He rose again, He ascended, He sat at the right hand; He shall return, and render unto every man.

3. That, by the illumination and operation of Thy HOLY SPIRIT, a peculiar people is called out of the whole world into one society, unto belief of the truth, and holiness of conversation: that, in this Spirit, we are made partakers of the communion of Saints, of the remission of sins, in this life present; and that, in the same Spirit, we assuredly look for the resurrection of the flesh, and life everlasting, in the world to come.

This most holy faith, once delivered unto the Saints, I believe, O LORD; help Thou mine unbelief. Increase my little faith: and mercifully grant

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that I may love the FATHER for His goodness, and adore the ALMIGHTY for His power; that I may commit the keeping of my soul to Him in well-doing as unto a faithful Creator. Grant that I may share salvation of JESUS, unction of CHRIST, adoption of the only-begotten SON.

That I may worship the LORD, for His conception, in faith;

For His birth, in humility;

For His sufferings, in patience, and in hatred of sin;

For His cross, in crucifying the first emotions of the flesh;

For His death, in mortifying the flesh;

For His burial, in burying evil thought by good works;

For His descent, in descending by frequent meditation into hell;

For His resurrection, in rising up unto newness of life;

For His ascension, in setting my affection on things above;

For His sitting at the right hand

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of the FATHER, in giving unto godliness the first place in my heart;

For His return from thence, in awe of His second coming;

For His judgment of the world, in judging myself that I be not judged by Him.

Grant, that I may receive from the SPIRIT the breath of saving grace,

That in the Church I may be partaker of election;

In the Holy Church, of sanctification;

In the Catholic Church, of communication;

And of a share in its sacraments and prayers, its fastings and groanings, its watchings and tears, its afflictions; unto an assurance of the remission of my sins, unto a hope of resurrection and translation to eternal life.

O Thou, That art the hope of all the ends of the earth, and of them that remain in the broad sea;

O Thou, in Whom our fathers

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trusted, and Thou didst deliver them; in Whom they trusted, and were not confounded;

O Thou, That hast been my hope from my youth; even when I was upon my mother's breasts, upon Whom I was cast from the womb; be Thou my refuge henceforth and for ever, and my portion in the land of the living.

My hope is in the goodness of Thy nature, in the excellency of Thy Names, in Thy types and figures, in Thy Word and works: let me not be ashamed of my hope.

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Acts of Intercession.

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PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER.

JAMES v. 16.

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Acts of Intercession.

A PRAYER FOR ALL ESTATES.

BISHOP ANDREWES.

BLESS, O LORD,
The world, the earth that we inhabit,
The Church, the kingdom,
The throne, the altar,
The council-table, the judgment-seat,
The places of education, and of traffic.
Bless all
Infants and children;
Striplings and youths;
Men in vigour and maturity;
The aged and infirm.
Bless
The tempted, the faint-hearted;
The sick, and the prisoner;
The orphan, the widow, and the stranger.

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Bless
All that travel by land or by water,
All women labouring with child,
And those that give suck;
All who serve in bitter servitude,
All the forsaken, and heavy laden.
Amen.

GENERAL INTERCESSION.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O GOD of infinite mercy, Who hast compassion on all men, and relievest the necessities of all that call to Thee for help, hear the prayers of Thy servant, who is unworthy to ask any petition for himself, yet, in humility and duty, is bound to pray for others.

For the Church.

O let Thy mercy descend upon the whole Church; preserve her in truth and peace, in unity and safety, in all storms, and against all temptations and enemies; that she, offering to

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Thy glory the never-ceasing sacrifice of prayer and thanksgiving, may advance the honour of her LORD, and be filled with His Spirit, and partake of His glory. *Amen.*

For the King.

In mercy remember the king; preserve his person in health and honour; his crown, in wealth and dignity; his kingdom, in peace and plenty; the churches under his protection, in piety and knowledge, and a strict and holy religion: keep him perpetually in Thy fear and favour, and crown him with glory and immortality. *Amen.*

For the Clergy.

Remember them that minister about holy things; let them be clothed with righteousness, and sing with joyfulness. *Amen.*

For Wife or Husband.

Bless Thy servant, [my wife or

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husband] with health of body and of spirit. O let the hand of Thy blessing be upon his [or her] head, night and day, and support *him* in all necessities, strengthen *him* in all temptations, comfort *him* in all *his* sorrows, and let *him* be Thy servant in all changes; and make us both to dwell with Thee for ever in Thy favour, in the light of Thy countenance and in Thy glory. *Amen.*

For our Children.

Bless my children with healthful bodies, with good understandings, with the graces and gifts of Thy Spirit, with sweet dispositions and holy habits; and sanctify them throughout in their bodies, and souls, and spirits, and keep them unblameable to the coming of the LORD JESUS. *Amen.*

For Friends and Benefactors.

Be pleased, O LORD, to remember my friends, all that have prayed for

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me, and all that have done me good. [Here name each, whom you would specially recommend.] Do Thou good to them, and return all their kindness double into their own bosom, rewarding them with blessings, and sanctifying them with Thy graces, and bringing them to glory.

For our Family.

Let all my family and kindred, my neighbours and acquaintance [Here name what other relations you please], receive the benefits of my prayers, and the blessings of GOD; the comforts and supports of Thy Providence, and the sanctification of Thy Spirit.

For all in misery.

Relieve and comfort all the persecuted and afflicted; speak peace to troubled consciences; strengthen the weak; confirm the strong; instruct the ignorant; deliver the oppressed from him that spoileth him, and relieve the needy that hath no helper;

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and bring us all, by the waters of comfort, and the ways of righteousness, to the kingdom of rest and glory, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

To GOD, the FATHER of our LORD JESUS CHRIST; to the Eternal SON, That was incarnate and born of a virgin; to the SPIRIT of the FATHER and the SON, be all honour and glory, worship and thanksgiving, now and for ever. *Amen.*

GENERAL INTERCESSION.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

1

SAVE us, defend and keep us in Thy fear and love, O Thou GOD of mercy and grace; give unto us the light of Thy countenance, pardon of our sins, health of our body, sanctification of our spirits, peace from heaven, and

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salvation of our souls in the day of our LORD JESUS. *Amen.*

For the Catholic Church.

2

Hear our prayers for Thy holy Church Catholic, which Thou hast redeemed with Thy Blood, sealed and sanctified with Thy Spirit: extirpate all heresies and false doctrines, unite all her divisions, let her be prosperous under Thy favour, and the protection of kings and princes, and the whole secular arm: that she may daily celebrate Thy Name, with strict obedience, and pure spiritual sacrifices; that she may be accepted, and prevail in her daily and nightly prayers, and that the gates of hell may never prevail against her; Let her live in the Spirit, and reign in Thy glory; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

For the Supreme Power.

3

We pray unto Thee, O Great King

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of heaven and earth, for all Christian kings, princes, governors, and states; crown them with justice and peace and with the love of GOD, and the love of their people; let holiness be the ornament of their heads; invest them with the armour of righteousness; and let the anointing from above make them sacred and venerable, wise and holy, that being servants of the King of kings, friends of religion, ministers of justice, and patrons of the poor, they may, at last, inherit a portion in the kingdom of our LORD JESUS.

For the State Ecclesiastical.

4

Remember all them that do the LORD's work in the ministry and conduct of souls. Give them great gifts and great holiness, that wisely and charitably, diligently and zealously, prudently and acceptably, they may be guides to the blind, com-

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forters to the sad and weary, that they may strengthen the weak and confirm the strong, separate the vile from the precious, boldly rebuke sin, patiently suffer for the truth, and be exemplary in their lives, that in all their actions and sermons, in their discipline and ministrations, they may advance the good of souls, and the honour of our LORD JESUS. *Amen.*

For all orders and states of men, &c.

5

O Blessed GOD, Who art rich in mercy and compassion, take care of all states of men and women in the Christian Church, the nobility and gentry, magistrates and judges, advocates and physicians, merchants and artificers, husbandmen and tradesmen, the labourers and the hirelings: give them grace in their several callings to glorify Thee, and to keep a good conscience both towards GOD and towards man, that

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they may find eternal comfort in the glorious day of our LORD JESUS.

For the miserable and afflicted.

6

In mercy remember the poor and needy, the widows and the fatherless, the strangers and the friendless, the oppressed and the grieved, the decrepit and sickly, the young men and the tempted, the weak of heart and the weak in body, them that languish and them that are dying; relieve their necessities, comfort their sorrows, sanctify their calamities, strengthen their weaknesses, and suffer not the devil to prevail over them in the days of their sorrow and disadvantage: and in Thy due time, deliver them from their sad bondage into Thy glorious liberty of the sons of GOD, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD.

7

Be a guide to the travellers, a star and a port to mariners, the comfort

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and strength of miners and galley-slaves. Pity, good GOD, all that are fallen into poverty and misfortunes; strengthen and deliver all women that are in sharp and dangerous labour; all them that suffer with intolerable pains and noisome diseases: have mercy and compassion upon all that are afflicted with illusion of the night and frightful apparitions; that are haunted or possessed with evil spirits, or troubled with despairing or amazed consciences: give them pity and give them patience, a speedy deliverance from their calamity, and a sanctified use of the rod of GOD, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD.

8

We pray unto Thee, O Blessed FATHER, in behalf of all that are in banishment and captivity, in fetters or hard services, in want or extreme poverty, in great fear or in any great

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passion. Keep them from sinning against Thee, and from being swallowed by too great a sorrow. Let the accidents of their lives be under the command of reason, and of Thy HOLY SPIRIT, and end in holiness and comfort, in peace and joys eternal; through the mercies of our GOD, in our LORD and SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

For Preservation from Danger and Evil.

9

Keep us, O GOD, from famine and pestilence, from earthquakes and inundations, from fire and sword, from invasion by foreign enemies, and from civil wars, from false religion and from discountenancing the true: let every Christian soul find pity at the Throne of Grace: let all our errors and ignorances find pardon by CHRIST, and remedy by the Holy Spirit of CHRIST; hear all our

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prayers, relieve all our necessities, sanctify all the events of Thy Providence, and the changes of our life, that we may for ever love and for ever fear Thee, and all things may work together for our good unto Thy glory, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR ALL ESTATES OF MEN.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O HOLY GOD, King eternal, out of the infinite storehouses of Thy grace and mercy, give unto all virgins chastity, and a religious spirit: to all persons dedicated to Thee and to religion, continence and meekness, an active zeal and an unwearied spirit; to all married pairs, faith and holiness; to widows and fatherless, and all that are oppressed, Thy patronage, comfort, and defence; to all

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Christian women, simplicity and modesty, humility and chastity, patience and charity: give unto the poor, to all that are robbed and spoiled of their goods, a competent support, and a contented spirit, and a treasure in heaven hereafter: give unto prisoners and captives, to them that toil in the mines, and row in the galleys, strength of body and of spirit, liberty and redemption, comfort and restitution; to all that travel by land, Thy Angel for their guide, and a holy and prosperous return; to all that travel by sea, freedom from pirates and shipwrecks, and bring them to the haven where they would be; to distressed and scrupulous consciences, to melancholy and disconsolate persons, to all that are afflicted with evil and unclean spirits, give a light from heaven, great grace, and proportionable comforts, and timely deliverance; give them patience and resignation, let their sorrows be changed into grace and com-

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fort, and let the storm waft them certainly to the regions of rest and glory.

LORD GOD of mercy, give to Thy martyrs, confessors, and all Thy persecuted, constancy and prudence, boldness and hope, a full faith and a never-failing charity. To all who are condemned to death, do Thou minister comfort, a strong, a quiet, and a resigned spirit: take from them the fear of death, and all remaining affections to sin, and all imperfections of duty, and cause them to die full of grace, full of hope. And give to all faithful, and particularly to them who have recommended themselves to the prayers of Thy unworthy servant, a supply of all their needs temporal and spiritual, and, according to their several states and necessities, rest and peace, pardon and refreshment; and shew us all a mercy in the day of judgment. *Amen.*

Give, O LORD, to the magistrates equity, sincerity, courage, and pru-

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dence, that they may protect the good, defend religion, and punish the wrong doers. Give to the nobility wisdom, valour, and loyalty; to merchants, justice and faithfulness; to all artificers and labourers, truth and honesty; to our enemies, forgiveness and brotherly kindness.

Preserve to us the heavens and the air in healthful influence and disposition; the earth in plenty; the kingdom in peace and good government; our marriages in peace, and sweetness and innocence of society; Thy people from famine and pestilence; our houses from burning and robbery; our persons from being burnt alive: from banishment and prison, from widowhood and destitution, from violence of pains and passions, from tempests and earthquakes, from inundation of waters, from rebellion or invasion, from impatience and inordinate cares, from tediousness of spirit and despair, from murder, and all violent, accursed, and unusual

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deaths, from the surprise of sudden and violent accidents, from passionate and unreasonable fears, from all Thy wrath, and from all our sins, good LORD, deliver and preserve Thy servants for ever. *Amen.*

Repress the violence of all implacable, warring, and tyrant nations: bring home unto Thy fold all that are gone astray: call into the Church all strangers: increase the number and holiness of Thine own people: bring infants to ripeness of age and reason; confirm all baptized people with Thy grace and with Thy Spirit: instruct the novices and new Christians: let a great grace and merciful Providence bring youthful persons safely and holily through the indiscretions, and passions, and temptations of their younger years: and to those whom Thou hast or shalt permit to live to the age of a man, give competent strength and wisdom; take from them covetousness and churlishness, pride and impatience; fill them full

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of devotion and charity, repentance and sobriety, holy thoughts, and longing desires after heaven and heavenly things; give them a holy and a blessed death, and to us all a joyful resurrection, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

GENERAL INTERCESSION IN TIMES OF TROUBLE.

SPINCKES.

HOLY, Holy, Holy LORD GOD of hosts, I, a miserable sinner, humbly acknowledge, that I am altogether unworthy to offer up any petition unto Thee: yet since Thou hast commanded us to make prayers and intercessions for all men; in obedience to Thy command, and in confidence of Thy unlimited goodness, I commend to Thy mercy and Divine

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Providence the wants and necessities of all mankind.

LORD, let it be Thy good pleasure to restore to Thy Catholic Church, primitive peace and purity, and to preserve it against the gates of hell.

Particularly, O LORD GOD, I implore Thy mercy for this sinful nation; for the iniquity of the land is exceeding great; and we have been unthankful under Thy blessings, incorrigible under Thy judgments, and unprofitable under all the means of grace: and what can we expect from Thee, but to drink deep of the cup of Thy wrath? But, O LORD, in the midst of judgment, remember mercy: O be favourable to Thy people, and give us all grace to turn to Thee in weeping, fasting, and prayer; and to put a period to our provocations, that Thou mayst put a period to our punishment.

Defend the Church of England from all the assaults of schism, heresy, or sacrilege; and bless all its Bishops,

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Priests, and Deacons, with apostolical graces, exemplary lives, and sound doctrine.

O let it ever be Thy good pleasure to save and defend the Queen from all her enemies; grant her a long and happy reign over us; and endue her with all those gifts and graces which may make her a terror to all evil works, and a great promoter of Thy glory. Bless her and all her royal relations, with such a measure of temporal good things, as Thou knowest to be most expedient for them, and crown them at last with eternal glory.

Grant to the privy-council, wisdom from above; to all magistrates, integrity and zeal for religion; to the gentry and commonality, pious and just, peaceable and loyal hearts: and to the whole nation, healthful, fruitful, and peaceful seasons. To all Jews, Turks, Infidels, Atheists, and Heretics, give the grace of conversion: to all wicked men, and male-

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factors, timely repentance: to the disconsolate, comfort; to the sick, health; to those that are in pain, ease; to the afflicted, patience; to the hungry, food; to the naked, raiment; to the captive, liberty; and to the oppressed, deliverance.

Thou, Who knowest the conditions, desires, and wants of all men, suit Thy graces and blessings to our several necessities of soul and body; mercifully hear all our supplications: and those things which, for our unworthiness, we dare not, and for our blindness, we cannot ask, vouchsafe to give us, for the worthiness of Thy SON JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

GENERAL.

QUEEN MARY'S PRIMER.

O LORD JESU CHRIST, SON of the Living GOD, set Thine holy Passion,

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Cross, and Death, between Thy judgment and our souls, both now, and at the hour of death. Vouchsafe to grant unto all mankind mercy and grace; to Thy holy Church peace and concord: and to us who are sinners, life and joy everlasting, Who livest and reignest with the FATHER and the HOLY GHOST world without end. *Amen.*

FOR THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

GRACIOUS FATHER, I humbly beseech Thee for Thy holy Catholic Church, fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purge it; where it is in error, direct it; where it is superstitious, rectify it; where anything is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen and confirm it; where it is in want, furnish

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it; where it is divided and rent asunder, make up the breaches of it; O Thou Holy One of Israel. *Amen.*

FOR THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O ETERNAL GOD and Merciful FATHER, I humbly beseech Thee bless Thy holy Catholic Church, wheresoever spread upon the face of the whole earth. Good LORD, purge it from all atheism, heresy, schism, superstition, factious maintenance of groundless opinions; that one Faith, one LORD, one Baptism, may in all places be uniformly professed, as Thy Church is and can be but one. And grant, good LORD, that I may be, and continue, a faithful, living, and a working member under CHRIST the Head, in that Church, the Body, all the days of my life, and through the

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hour of my death, through the merits, and by the grace, of the same JESUS CHRIST, our LORD and only SAVIOUR. *Amen.*

FOR THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O MERCIFUL GOD, since Thou hast ordered me to live in these times, in which the rents of Thy Church are grievous, I humbly beseech Thee to guide me, that the divisions of men may not separate me either from Thee or it: that I may ever labour the preservation of truth and peace; that where for and by our sins, the peace of it succeeds not, Thou wilt yet accept my will for the deed, that I may still pray, even while Thou grantest not, because I know Thou wilt grant it when Thou seest it fit. In the mean time bless, I beseech Thee, this Church in which I live, that in it I

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may honour and serve Thee all the days of my life, and after this be glorified by Thee, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O MERCIFUL GOD, bless this particular Church in which I live; make it, and all the members of it, sound in faith, and holy in life, that they may serve Thee, and Thou bless them, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH IN TIME OF TROUBLE.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ETERNAL GOD, Thou preserver of

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men, and the great lover of souls, have pity and compassion upon Thine afflicted handmaid, the Church of England. Thou hast humbled us for our pride, and chastened us for our want of discipline. O forgive us all our sins, by which Thou hast been provoked to anger and jealousy, to despise our sorrows, and to arm Thyself against us.

Blessed GOD, smite us not with a final and exterminating judgment, call not the watchmen off from their guards, nor the Angels from their charges: let us not die by a famine of Thy Word and Sacraments: if Thou smitest us with the rod of a man, Thou canst sanctify every stroke unto us, and canst bring good out of evil, and delightest to do so: but nothing can bring us recompense if Thou hatest us, and sufferest the souls of Thy people to perish.

Unite our hearts and tongues, take away the spirit of error and division from amongst us, and so order all

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the accidents of Thy Providence, that religion may increase, and our devotion may be great and popular, and truth may be encouraged and promoted, and Thy Name glorified, and Thy servants comforted and instructed, that Thy HOLY SPIRIT may rule, and all interests may stoop and obey, publish and advance the honour of our LORD JESUS. *Amen.*

FOR THE CHURCH.

LAKE.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Who hast purchased to Thyself an Universal Church, by the precious Blood of Thy dear SON; mercifully look upon that part of it in these kingdoms so miserably shattered and distressed. I confess, O LORD, our sins have justly deserved that Thou shouldest remove Thy candlestick from us, and by

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some extraordinary judgment, make us a scorn and a by-word to the world: but, I beseech Thee, reserve those plagues which we have deserved, and continue those mercies which we have hitherto enjoyed, especially the comfort of Thy Gospel, and liberty of Thy truth. O let not our adversaries ever roar in the midst of our congregations, and set up their banners as signs of victory and conquest over us; but shield and protect us with Thy mercy, that in Thy holy Church we may still glorify Thy Name, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR THE BISHOPS.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O MOST Blessed SAVIOUR JESUS, King of heaven and earth, the Head and Prince of the Catholic Church,

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Who hast appointed Thy servants ministers and stewards in the house of Thy FATHER, to give bread to the hungry, and drink to them that thirst after the water of life, sanctify and adorn with Thy gifts and graces, all the spiritual guides and governors which Thou hast appointed over us; that they may continue in Thy service to comfort the afflicted, to instruct the ignorant, to confirm the strong, to defend and promote Thy truth, to intercede for Thy servants, to open the kingdom of heaven to all believers, and to shut up the disobedient and rebellious in everlasting prisons, by the keys of the kingdom, by Thy Word and Sacraments, by Thy power and by Thy SPIRIT; remove not the candlestick from us, neither do Thou quench the light of Israel; but let Thy servants, our bishops and priests, be like burning and shining lights in the temple of GOD, by a continual, never failing, never broken succession, offering up

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the daily sacrifice, rejoicing in the plenty of peace, and the employments of Thy house; in holy offices, and a daily ministration; that Thou being for ever pleased, and for ever glorified, we may be Thy peculiar people, a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, clothed with righteousness and singing with joyfulness eternal hallelujahs to the honour of GOD, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR THE PRIESTHOOD.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

MOST Blessed and Eternal JESU, Who art a Priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec, and hast separated Thy servants to minister to Thee in holy offices, and to convey holy things unto the people; give unto all Thy servants, the ministers of Thy Word and Sacraments, the

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spirit of prudence and knowledge, of faith and charity, of watchfulness and holy zeal; that they, as good helps in government, may declare Thy will faithfully to their congregations, and administer the sacraments purely and devoutly, and by their holy life become an example to Thy little flock, that so they, with cheerfulness and joy, may render an account of their charge, and may by Thy mercy obtain the blessing of Thy priesthood, and the glories of Thy kingdom, O most blessed and eternal SAVIOUR, Who livest and reignest with the FATHER and the HOLY SPIRIT, eternal GOD, world without end. *Amen.*

FOR THE CLERGY.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O THOU great Shepherd and Bishop of our souls, Holy and Eternal JESUS,

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give unto Thy servants the ministers of the mysteries of Christian religion, the spirit of prudence and sanctity, faith, and charity, confidence and zeal, diligence and watchfulness, that they may declare Thy will unto the people faithfully, and dispense Thy Sacraments rightly, and intercede with Thee graciously and acceptably for Thy servants. Grant, O LORD, that by a holy life and a true belief, by well doing and patient suffering (when Thou shalt call them to it), they may glorify Thee the great Lover of souls, and after a plentiful conversion of sinners from the error of their ways, they may shine like the stars in glory. *Amen.*

Give unto Thy servants, the bishops, a discerning spirit, that they may lay hands suddenly on no man, but may depute such persons to the ministries of religion, who may adorn the Gospel of GOD, and whose lips may preserve knowledge, and such who by their good preaching and

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holy living may advance the service of the LORD JESUS. *Amen.*

FOR BISHOPS, SPIRITUAL PASTORS, AND MINISTERS OF GOD'S WORD.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

O LORD, JESU CHRIST, most true Pastor and Shepherd of our souls, we most humbly beseech Thee, mercifully to behold Thy poor and scattered flock, whom Thou hast purchased with Thy most precious Blood; and to send them such shepherds as both can and will diligently seek up the lost sheep, lovingly lay them on their shoulders, and faithfully bring them home again to the sheepfold.

Vouchsafe ever to continue in Thy Church good bishops, learned preachers, faithful teachers, godly ministers, and diligent shepherds; even such

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as have a fervent and unfeigned zeal towards the setting forth of Thy glory and the health of Thy people. Endue them with Thy HOLY SPIRIT, that they may be faithful, wise, and discreet servants, giving Thy household meat in due season. Give them that Thy wisdom, which no man is able to resist; wherewith also they may be both able to exhort with wholesome doctrine, and also to convince and overcome them that speak against it.

Finally, grant, we pray Thee, most Merciful SAVIOUR, that, in all things, they may so behave themselves, according to Thy blessed will and commandment, that when Thou, the most high Bishop and chief Shepherd, shalt appear, they may receive the incorruptible crown of glory. *Amen.*

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FOR CHURCH AND STATE.

BISHOP WILSON.

O SOVEREIGN LORD! I prostrate myself before Thee confessing my own sin, and acknowledging the justice of any scourge which Thou shalt bring upon us; and trembling to think how much I may have contributed towards it; beseeching Thee to have compassion on us, in these days of confusion.

O LORD, prevent the judgments that threaten us; purge this nation from all such crimes as may be the cause of Thy heavy displeasure against us; from whoredom and drunkenness; from swearing, lying, and perjury; from sacrilege, injustice, fraud, disobedience, malice, and uncharitableness. Take from among us the spirit of atheism, irreligion, and profaneness; and in mercy re-

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buke and convert all such as give encouragement or countenance to any of these vices, which may provoke Thee to give us up to infidelity or distraction. O let Thine anger be turned away from us; give us not over unto the will of our adversaries, and unto such as strive to bring all things into confusion. Preserve this Church in the midst of all dangers; and restore unto us peace and unity; and grant us grace to make a better use of these blessings, for the time to come, for JESUS CHRIST'S sake. *Amen.*

FOR THE STATE.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O LORD, Thou Which bringest the counsels of the heathen to nought, and makest the devices of the people to be of none effect, and castest out the counsels of princes when they have offended Thee; have mercy upon this

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kingdom, forgive the sins of this people; turn Thee unto them and bless them, that the world may say, Blessed are the people whose GOD is the LORD JEHOVAH, and blessed are the folk that He hath chosen to Him to be His inheritance. LORD, hear and grant for JESUS CHRIST His sake. *Amen.*

LORD, bless this kingdom, that religion and virtue may season all sorts of men: that there may be peace within the gates, and plenty within the palaces of it. In peace, I beseech Thee, so preserve it, that it corrupt not: in war so defend it, that it suffer not: in plenty so order it, that it riot not: in want so pacify and moderate it, that it may patiently and peaceably seek Thee, the only full supply both of men and states; that so it may continue a place and a people to do Thee service to the end of time, through JESUS CHRIST our only SAVIOUR and REDEEMER. *Amen.*

O LORD, according to all Thy

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righteousness, I beseech Thee, let Thine anger be turned away from this city and Thy people; and cause Thy face to shine upon whatsoever is desolate therein, for JESUS CHRIST His sake. *Amen.*

FOR THE QUEEN.

BISHOP COSIN.

O GOD, the unspeakable Author of the world, Creator of men, Governor of empires, and Establisher of all kingdoms, Who out of the loins of our father Abraham didst choose a king, Who became the SAVIOUR of all kings and nations of the earth; bless, we beseech Thee, Thy faithful servant, and our dread Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, with the richest blessings of Thy grace. Establish her in the throne of her kingdom by Thy mighty aid and protection; visit

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her as Thou didst visit Moses in the bush, Joshua in the battle, Gideon in the field, and Samuel in the temple. Let the dew of Thine abundant mercies fall upon her head, and give unto her the blessing of David and Solomon. Be unto her an helmet of salvation against the face of her enemies, and a strong tower of defence in the time of adversity. Let her reign be prosperous and her days many. Let peace, and love, and holiness: let justice and truth, and all Christian virtues, flourish in her time: let her people serve her with honour and obedience, and let her so duly serve Thee here on earth, that she may hereafter everlastingly reign with Thee in heaven, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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FOR THE QUEEN.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O LORD, grant the Queen a long life, that her years may endure as many ages: furnish her with wise and safe counsels, and give her a heart of courage and constancy to pursue them. O prepare Thy loving mercy and faithfulness for her, that they may preserve her; so will I always sing praises unto Thy Name, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

O LORD, hear the Queen in the day of her trouble, that Thy Name, O GOD of Jacob, may defend her. Send her help from Thy sanctuary, and strength out of Sion. Grant her her heart's desire, and fulfil all her mind. Set her heart firm upon Thee, and upon other things but as they are in and from Thee; that we her servants under Thee may see with joy that

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Thou helpest Thine anointed, and that Thou wilt hear her from Thy Holy Heaven, even with the wholesome strength of Thy right hand. And, O LORD, close not mine eyes till I see Thy favour shine out upon her, even for JESUS CHRIST His sake. *Amen.*

FOR THE QUEEN.

BISHOP COSIN.

GRANT, we beseech Thee, Almighty GOD, that our Sovereign Lady the Queen may be a most mighty protector of her people, and religious defender of Thy sacred faith, a bountiful comforter of Thy holy Church, a glorious triumpher over all her enemies, a gracious governor unto all her subjects, and that there may never be one wanting in her house, to rule this nation by succession in all ages, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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FOR OUR PARENTS.

BISHOP COSIN.

ALMIGHTY GOD, FATHER of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, of Whom the whole family in heaven and in earth is named; I give Thee most humble thanks, for that Thou didst, of Thy Divine Providence, vouchsafe to let me be born of Christian parents, by whose care I was first brought into Thy holy Baptism, and afterwards brought up in Thy holy religion. I beseech Thee, O blessed GOD, Who art the rewarder of every good work, to recompense them their full reward, even out of the riches of Thy bounty and goodness. Give them peace and plenty; defend them from all dangers both of body and soul; keep them in the stedfastness of Thy faith, and in the obedience of Thy holy commandments: that so, having Thee their

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merciful and gentle FATHER, after many happy days here in this life, they may at last be brought unto life everlasting, through JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

FOR OUR PARENTS.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

THOU hast given a commandment in Thy law, O Heavenly FATHER, that children should honour their fathers and mothers; I most humbly beseech Thee, therefore, to breathe Thy HOLY SPIRIT into my breast; that I may reverence and honour my father and mother, not only with outward gestures of my body, but also with the unfeigned affection of my heart; love them, obey them, pray for them, help them, and do for them, both in word and deed, whatsoever lieth in my power; that Thou, seeing

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my unfeigned, hearty goodwill toward my parents, mayest become my loving Heavenly FATHER; and number me among those Thy children, whom from everlasting Thou hast appointed to be heirs of Thy glorious kingdom, through Thy well-beloved SON JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

ANOTHER PRAYER FOR OUR PARENTS.

BISHOP COSIN.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Who hast strictly commanded us to honour our father and our mother next unto Thee; Grant me of Thy goodness and grace so to love, and to honour my parents, to fear and to obey them, to help and to pray for them, as Thou in Thy holy Word hast directed and charged me to do; that both in their life and at their death, their souls may bless

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me, and by Thy fatherly mercy I may obtain that blessing which Thou hast promised to those that honour their father and their mother; and that Thou, seeing my unfeigned heart and reverence towards them, mayst become my loving Heavenly FATHER, and number me among those Thy children who are heirs of Thy glorious kingdom, through Thy well-beloved and dear SON JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR A WIFE.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

FORASMUCH, O Heavenly FATHER, as Thou hast called me from a single life unto the holy state of honourable wedlock, which is Thy good and blessed ordinance, I most heartily pray Thee, grant me grace to live with the wife Thou hast given me according to Thy godly pleasure; to

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love her as CHRIST loved the Church; to cherish her, as I would cherish my own body; to provide for her according to my ability; to instruct her in the knowledge of Thy blessed Word; quietly and peaceably to live with her; and to agree together in such perfect concord and unity as is found among the many members in one body, seeing now that we also are no more two but one flesh, that others seeing our godly and quiet conversation, may hereby be led to forsake all wicked living, and to embrace the holy state of honourable wedlock, unto the glory and praise of Thy holy Name. *Amen*.

FOR A HUSBAND.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

O LORD, forasmuch as Thou, of Thy fatherly goodness, hast vouchsafed to keep me from my tender age unto

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this present; and hast now called me from my single life unto the holy state of honourable wedlock, that I, living therein, might, according to Thine ordinance, bring forth children unto Thy glory, give me grace, I most entirely beseech Thee, to walk worthy of my vocation; to acknowledge my husband to be my head; to be subject unto him; to learn Thy blessed Word of him; to reverence him; to obey him; to please him: to be ruled by him; peaceably and quietly to live with him; to wear such apparel as is meet for my degree; and such clothing as becomes a sober Christian woman; circumspectly and warily to look to my household, that nothing perish through my negligence; and always to have a diligent eye, that no dishonesty, no wickedness be committed in my house; but, in it, all things be ordered according to Thy holy will, Who art worthy of all honour, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

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A PRAYER TO BE SAID BY MARRIED PERSONS IN BEHALF OF THEMSELVES AND EACH OTHER.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ETERNAL and Gracious FATHER, Who hast consecrated the holy estate of marriage to become mysterious, and to represent the union of CHRIST and His Church, let Thy HOLY SPIRIT so guide me in the doing the duties of this state, that it may not become a sin unto me; nor that liberty which Thou hast hallowed by the Holy JESUS, become an occasion of licentiousness by my own weakness and sensuality: and do Thou forgive all those irregularities and too sensual applications which may have, in any degree, discomposed my spirit and the severity of a Christian. Let me,

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in all accidents and circumstances, be severe in my duty towards Thee, affectionate and dear to my wife [or *husband*], a guide and good example to my family, and in all quietness, sobriety, prudence, and peace, a follower of those holy pairs who have served Thee with godliness and a good testimony. And the blessings of the Eternal GOD, blessings of the right hand and of the left, be upon the body and soul of Thy servant my wife [or *husband*], and abide upon her [or *him*] till the end of a holy and happy life; and grant that both of us may live together for ever in the embraces of the holy and eternal JESUS, our LORD and SAVIOUR. *Amen.*

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A MAIDEN'S PRAYER FOR HER FUTURE HUSBAND.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

LORD, bless and preserve that dear person, whom Thou hast chosen to be my husband; let his life be long and blessed, comfortable and holy; and let me also become a great blessing and comfort unto him; a sharer in all his joys, a refreshment in all his sorrows, a meet helper for him in all accidents and chances of the world. Make me amiable, for ever, in his eyes, and very dear to him. Unite his heart to me in the dearest union of love and holiness; and mine to him in all sweetness, and charity, and compliance. Keep from me all morosity and ungentleness, all sullenness and harshness of disposition, all pride and vanity, all discontented-

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ness and unreasonableness of passion and humour: and make me humble and obedient, charitable and loving, patient and contented, useful and observant; that we may delight in each other according to Thy blessed Word and ordinance, and both of us may rejoice in Thee, having our portion in the love and service of GOD for ever and ever.

O Blessed FATHER, never suffer any mistakes or discontent, any distrustfulness or sorrow, any trifling arrests of fancy, or unhandsome accident, to cause any unkindness between us: but let us so dearly love, so affectionately observe, so religiously attend to each other's good and content, that we may always please Thee, and by this learn and practise our duty and greatest love to Thee, and become mutual helps to each other in the way of godliness; that when we have received the blessing of a married life, the comforts of society, the endearments of a holy and great

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affection, and the dowry of blessed children, we may for ever dwell together in the embraces of Thy love and glories, feasting in the marriage supper of the Lamb to eternal ages, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen. Amen.*

A WIFE'S PRAYER IN BEHALF OF A VICIOUS HUSBAND.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ETERNAL FATHER, Thou Preserver of men, Thou great Lover of souls, Who didst send Thy Holy SON to die, that mankind might be redeemed, and sin might be destroyed: Thou knowest how intolerable a thing it is that a soul should, to eternal ages, be encircled with Thy wrath and the indignation of a mighty and an angry GOD; and, therefore, dost love to do miracles of mercy, because

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Thou lovest not that a sinner should perish: be pleased to give Thy handmaid leave to present her humble desires in behalf of a sinner, one sinner for another; the miserable for him that is ready to perish. LORD, look down in mercy upon my husband; snatch him from the jaws of hell, suffer him not to perish in his sins; but open his eyes with the light of Thy Word and of Thy Spirit, that he may espy his danger, that he may behold the deformity of his sins [the injuriousness of his actions, the folly of his pleasures*], the iniquity of his vows.

Cleanse his hands and heart from all unrighteousness [from blood-guiltiness, from rapine, from violence, from cruelty], O LORD, and purify his soul and body from all impurity, [from all intemperance, from the violence and fury of passion], giving him a perfect repentance, and a per-

* Or other offences against GOD, as the case may be.

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fect pardon: and if it be Thy will, let me also, some way or other, co-operate towards the recovery of his precious soul; and be pleased to remember the sufferings of Thy hand-maid, not that he may receive evil, but that I may find good from Thy gracious hands, in the day of recompense, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR SAFE CHILDBIRTH.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY FATHER of men and Angels, in Whose hands are the keys of life and death, of the womb and of the grave, look down at this time in great mercy and gentlest compassion upon Thy servant. Thou hast, O GOD, upon the weakest of mankind fixed the sharpest degree of painful childbirth; but so Thou lovest to

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magnify Thy mercies and Thy power, that Thy strength may be seen in our weakness; so let it be, O GOD, unto Thy handmaid; let Thy loving-kindness be her confidence and her rest, her hope and her security, now and in the hour of her travail.

LORD, let Thy holy Angels be present with Thy servant, in their holy and charitable ministries about her person; it is a great thing that we require; but we beg it of the great King of Heaven and earth, the LORD of Angels, Who hath promised that His Angels shall stand in circuit round about them that fear the LORD: look, O LORD, upon her fear; it is humble, but it is trembling: look upon her love, and make it what it is not yet: do Thou sanctify her fear of Thee, and change it into obedience, and carefulness of duty: increase her love of Thee, and make it to be pure and perfect, operative and busy, zealous and obedient; make it to grow up to the perfections of a Christian,

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and pass unto the beauties of holiness: so shall Thy servant feel Thy daily mercies, and no evil shall come near to hurt her.

Gracious FATHER, give Thy servant leave to rely upon Thy glorious promises. Thou hast commanded us to call upon Thee in our trouble, and hast promised to deliver us: O look upon Thy handmaid, leave her not, nor forsake her, for trouble is hard at hand, and there is none that can help or deliver but only Thou, O GOD. In Thee, O LORD, do we trust, let Thy servants never be confounded. Be pleased, O LORD, to give Thy servant patience and dereliction of her own desires, perfect resignation of her own will and a conformity to Thine; that she may with joy receive the blessing which Thou wilt choose for her, and which we humbly beg of Thee, even that she may have a holy, a healthful, a joyful, and a safe deliverance of her burden. LORD, keep her from all

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sad accidents and evil contingencies, from violent pains and passions, from all indecency of comportment and unquietness of spirit, from impatience and despair, from doing anything that is criminal, or feeling anything that is intolerable.

O LORD our GOD, give Thy servants leave to pray unto Thee in behalf of this Thy handmaid, that Thou wilt not cut her off in the midst of her days, nor forsake her when her strength faileth: but spare her, O GOD, not for any purposes of vanity, or the satisfaction of any impotent or secular desires, but that she may live to serve Thee, to redeem her time misspent in folly, to get victory over temptations and perfect dominion over her passions, to grow great in religion, and of an excellent charity and devotion. O spare her a little, that she may recover her strength before she goes hence and be no more seen; so shall Thy servant rejoice in Thy mercies, and

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speak of Thy loving-kindness in the Church of Thy redeemed ones, and will spend her days in holiness and zealous pursuances of religion. Remove her sins far from her, as the east is from the west; for Thou didst send Thy most holy SON to die for us, and redeem us from all the powers of sin and hell: Thou knowest whereof we were made, and rememberest that we are but dust: O do not visit her sins upon her by a hasty death, but manifest Thy mercies and Thy pardon, by giving her a mighty grace, that she may live a holy life: and be pleased to grant this also, that those impresses of pious resolutions, and religious purposes of fear and love, of hope and desire, which Thy grace in the circumstances of her present condition makes upon her, may abide in her soul for ever; and, in the days of ease and safety, may be as operative and productive of holiness, as now they are of a hearty prayer, and pas-

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sionate desires for Thy mercies upon her, in a safe and blessed childbirth.

LORD, bless her child; grant that it may be born with a right shape and a perfect body, with a comely countenance and straight limbs, with entire senses and expedite faculties, with an excellent power of understanding and sweet dispositions; and let Thy HOLY SPIRIT of grace conduct it to the sacrament of baptism, and in safety and holiness from the cradle to the grave. Grant this, O eternal GOD, for His sake, Who was born of a holy maid, and suffered the infirmities of nature, and died for our sins, and rose again for our justification, even our LORD and SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

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A PRAYER FOR A CHILD TO BE BAPTIZED.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, Who hast given the promise of Thy SPIRIT to us and to our children, even to as many as the LORD our GOD shall call: give Thy HOLY SPIRIT to this infant, that the evil spirits of darkness may not take Thy portion from Thee, nor hurt the body, nor deceive the understanding, nor corrupt the will, nor tempt the affections of this infant: but that Thy SPIRIT, Who bloweth where It listeth, and no man knows whence He cometh nor whither He goeth, may be in this child as the seed of GOD springing up to life eternal; that the kingdom of GOD which is within, and cometh not with observation, may early rule and conduct this

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infant, prevent the folly of *his* childhood from growing up to sins in *his* youth, and may work strongly in *him* when *his* weakness, *his* ignorances, and temptations, are most powerful to prevail upon *him;* that from *his* cradle to *his* grave *he* may be guided by the SPIRIT of GOD in the paths of the Divine commandments. Admit *him*, O GOD, into the bosom of the Church, into the arms of Thy mercy, into a right of the promises, into the service of CHRIST, into the communion of saints; and give *him* power to become a child of GOD, that being buried with CHRIST in baptism, *he* may also rise with Him through the faith of the operation of GOD, through the same our Blessed LORD and SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

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A PRAYER TO BE SAID BY PARENTS FOR THEIR CHILDREN.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY and most merciful FATHER, Who hast promised children as a reward to the righteous, and hast given them to me as a testimony of Thy mercy, and an engagement of my duty; be pleased to be a FATHER unto them, and give them healthful bodies, understanding souls, and sanctified spirits, that they may be Thy servants and Thy children, all their days. Let a great Mercy and Providence lead them through the dangers and temptations and ignorances of their youth, that they may never run into folly and the evils of an unbridled appetite. So order the accidents of their lives, that, by good education, careful tutors, holy exam-

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ple, innocent company, prudent counsel, and Thy restraining grace, their duty to Thee may be secured in the midst of a crooked and untoward generation: and if it seem good in Thine eyes, let me be enabled to provide conveniently for the support of their persons, that they may not be destitute and miserable in my death; or if Thou shalt call me off from this world by a more timely summons, let their portion be Thy care, mercy, and Providence, over their bodies and souls: and may they never live vicious lives, nor die violent or untimely deaths; but let them glorify Thee here by a free obedience, and the duties of a whole life; that, when they have served Thee in their generations, and have profited the Christian commonwealth, they may be coheirs with JESUS, in the glories of Thy eternal kingdom, through the same our LORD, JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

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A MOTHER'S PRAYER FOR HER CHILDREN.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

MOST Gracious and Eternal GOD, FATHER of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, FATHER of men and Angels, FATHER of mercies, and GOD of all comforts; Thou hast promised to be a FATHER to a thousand generations of them that love and fear Thee; be Thou a GOD and a FATHER to me, and the children which Thou hast given me. Enable me, O LORD, to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the LORD, and in the fear of GOD, to the praise of Thy holy Name. O give me Thy grace and favour, that I may instruct them with diligence and meekness, govern them with prudence and holiness, provide for them useful employments, and competent

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provisions of life and comfort, leading them in the paths of religion and justice, by example and precepts of holiness; never provoking them to wrath, never indulging them in their follies, never conniving at an unworthy action; and that all my children may be Thine, O preserve them in Thy favour, or take them away from hence while they are. If Thou pleasest let them live to a full age, but secure to them a full measure of piety and holiness, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

To this end give them grace to obey their parents, that doing the duty, they may receive the promise: preserve them from sin and shame, from youthful follies, and youthful crimes. Sanctify them throughout in their bodies, and souls, and spirits; that their thoughts may be pure and holy, not displeasing or misbecoming the eye of Him Who is the Searcher of hearts; let their words be true, prudent, and ingenuous, seasoned

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with grace, and apt to minister grace unto the hearers: let all their actions in their whole life, be such as become the servants of JESUS, holy and useful, that they may not be burdens to the public or to their family; but pleasing Thee, and doing good to others, they may increase in the love of GOD, and in favour with men, and may have the portion of the meek and humble in this world, and of the pure and merciful in the world to come; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR OUR CHILDREN.

KING EDWARD THE SIXTH'S PRIMER.

THE fruit of the womb, and the multitude of children is Thy gift and blessing, O LORD GOD; given to this end, that they may live to Thy glory and the commodity of their neigh-

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bour. Forasmuch, therefore, as Thou, of Thy goodness, hast given me children, I beseech Thee give me also grace to train them up, even from their cradles, in Thy nurture and doctrine, in Thy holy laws and blessed ordinances; that from their very young age they may know Thee, believe in Thee, fear, love, and obey Thee, and diligently walk in Thy commandments all the days of their life, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR RELATIVES.

LAKE.

ALMIGHTY GOD, the Creator and Preserver of all men, (Who hast commanded me to honour *my father and my mother*;* grant me of Thy goodness and grace so to love and honour

* This is only to be said by those who have parents or a parent.

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them, to fear and obey *them*, to help, and to pray for *them*, as Thou in Thy holy Word hast directed and charged me to do, that both in their lives and deaths their souls may bless me.) Give, I pray Thee, to (them and) all my relations and benefactors, deliverance from all dangers both of body and soul; keep them in the stedfastness of Thy faith, and in the obedience of Thy commandments; bless them, O LORD, and make us all doubly dear to each other both in the flesh and in the LORD, and that for our LORD JESUS CHRIST's sake. *Amen*.

FOR RELATIONS, BENEFACTORS, ETC.

BISHOP WILSON.

BE gracious, O LORD, unto my relations, benefactors, enemies, and all that have desired my prayers; all

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who, by their own labours, do minister to our necessities; together with all our known and unknown benefactors. Render, O GOD, a good reward, and a plentiful return, to all those who have been kind and charitable. Grant that we may all so live here, as that we may meet hereafter in the paradise of GOD. *Amen.*

FOR FRIENDS AND KINSMEN.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

GOOD LORD, bless all the places to which Thou hast made me have any nearer reference, the place where I was born, &c.; every soul contained in any of these, all my friends, kindred, acquaintance, any unto whom Thou hast made me any way beholding; especially my nearer and my bosom friends, —— &c. All those, &c., LORD, I beseech Thee, forgive me

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and them all our sins, and continue us Thy servants both in life and death. *Amen.*

FOR BENEFACTORS.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, Thou Fountain of all good, of all excellence both to men and Angels, extend Thine abundant favour and loving-kindness to my patron, to all my friends and benefactors: reward them, and make them plentiful recompense, for all the good which, from Thy merciful Providence, they have conveyed unto me. Let the light of Thy countenance shine upon them, and let them never come into any affliction or sadness, but such as may be an instrument of Thy glory and their eternal comfort. Forgive them all their sins; let Thy Divinest Spirit preserve

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them from all deeds of darkness. Let Thy ministering Angels guard their persons from the violence of the spirit of darkness. And Thou Who knowest every degree of their necessity by Thy infinite wisdom, give supply to all their needs by Thy glorious mercy, preserving their persons, sanctifying their hearts, and leading them in the ways of righteousness, by the waters of comfort, to the land of eternal rest and glory, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR MASTERS.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

O LORD JESU CHRIST, we are commanded by Thy blessed Apostles, that we should honour and obey our bodily masters, in fear and trembling, not only if they be good and courteous, but also though they be

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froward; and serve them, not unto the eye, as men pleasers, but with singleness of heart; not churlishly, answering them again, nor picking, stealing, or conveying away any parts of their goods unjustly; but showing all good faithfulness unto our masters, as though we served GOD, and not men. Grant me grace, I most humbly beseech Thee, so to serve my master and my superiors, that there may be found no fault in me; but that I, behaving myself uprightly, justly, faithfully, and truly in my vocation, may do honour to the doctrine of Thee, my GOD and SAVIOUR, in all things. *Amen.*

FOR OUR SERVANTS.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

THY commandment is by Thy holy Apostle, O most merciful LORD

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CHRIST, that masters should treat their servants gently; putting away threatenings, and doing that unto them which is just and equal; forasmuch as we also have a Master in heaven, with Whom there is no respect of persons. Grant, I most heartily pray Thee, that I may so order my servants, that I attempt no unrighteousness against them; but that I may so use my rule and authority over them, that I may always remember that Thou art the common LORD of all, and we all Thy servants; also that I may not forget that we be all brethren, having one FATHER Which is in heaven, and look for one glorious kingdom, where Thou, with the FATHER and the HOLY GHOST, livest and reignest, true and everlasting GOD, for ever. *Amen.*

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FOR OUR SERVANTS.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

GRACIOUS FATHER, bless my servants, and make them Thine; give them grace to serve Thee first, with faithfulness, soberness, and diligence. Make me ever willing, and in some measure able, to repay unto them the time and the strength which they either have or shall spend to do me service, even for JESUS CHRIST His sake. *Amen.*

PRAYER IN BEHALF OF OUR CHARGES.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, merciful and gracious, have mercy upon my family

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[or *pupils or parishioners*, &c.] and all committed to my charge: sanctify them with Thy grace, preserve them with Thy Providence, guard them from all evil by the custody of Angels, direct them in the ways of peace and holy religion by my ministry and the conduct of Thy most HOLY SPIRIT, and consign them all, with the participation of Thy blessings and graces in this world, with healthful bodies, with good understandings, and sanctified spirits, to a full fruition of Thy glories hereafter, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR RICH MEN.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

ALBEIT, LORD, Thou art the Giver of all good things, and through Thy blessing men become rich, that are godly and justly rich; yet we are

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taught in Thy Divine Scriptures, that riches, and the cares of worldly things smother and choke up Thy holy Word; and that it is more easy for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of heaven. Again, that they which will be rich, fall into temptations and snares, and into many foolish and noisome lusts, which whelm men into perdition and destruction (for covetousness is the root of all evil), we, therefore, perceiving by Thy blessed Word so many incommodities, yea pestilences of man's salvation to accompany riches, most entirely beseech Thee to bless such as Thou hast made rich, with a good, humble, and loving, and free mind; that they remembering themselves to be Thy dispensers and stewards, may not set their minds upon the deceitful treasures of this world, which are more brittle than glass, and more vain than smoke, nor yet heap up thick clay against

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themselves; but liberally and cheerfully bestow part of such goods as Thou hast committed unto them, upon their poor neighbours; make for themselves friends of this wicked mammon; be merciful to the needy; be rich in good works; and ready to give and to distribute to the necessity of the saints, laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come; that they may obtain everlasting life, through JESUS CHRIST, Thy SON, our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR POOR PEOPLE.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

As riches, so likewise poverty is Thy gift, O LORD; and as Thou hast made some rich to despise the worldly goods, so hast Thou appointed some to be poor, that they may receive Thy benefits at the rich man's hands.

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And as the godly rich are well beloved of Thee, so in like manner are the poor, that bear the cross of poverty patiently, and thankfully; for good and evil, life and death, poverty and riches, are of Thee, O LORD; we therefore most humbly pray Thee, to give a good spirit to all such as it hath pleased Thee to burden with the yoke of poverty; that they may with a patient and thankful heart walk in their state, like to that poor Lazarus of whom we read in the Gospel of Thy well-beloved SON, (who chose rather patiently and godly to die, than unjustly or by force to get any man's goods) and by no means envy, murmur, or grudge against such as it hath pleased Thee to endue with more abundance of worldly goods: but knowing their state, although never so humble and base, to be of Thee their LORD GOD, and that Thou wilt not forsake them in this their great need, but send them things necessary for their poor life,

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may continually praise Thee, and hope for better things in the world to come; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO MOURN.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Who governest all things in heaven and earth with infinite wisdom, and infinite mercy, and bringest good out of evil, comfort out of sorrow, and after a gentle visitation dost refresh Thy children with the light of Thy countenance, with the blessings of Thy Providence, with the returns of Thy grace, and the comforts of Thy HOLY SPIRIT; have mercy upon this family, and return to them all with Thy loving-kindness, exchanging their present sorrow into the advantages of holiness and blessing. Be Thou now and ever what

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Thou gloriest in, a FATHER of the fatherless, a Husband to the widow, a GOD of comfort to them that mourn in secret. Grant that Thy servants may not weep as men without hope, nor murmur at Thy dispensation, nor complain of anything but themselves, nor desire anything but that Thy will be done, nor do anything but what is agreeable to Thy holy Word and commandment. And grant that when Thou smitest any of us, it may increase Thy fear in us; and when Thou doest good to any of us, in smiting or forbearing, in chastising or comforting, it may increase Thy love in us: and let Thy HOLY SPIRIT so prevail over all our wills and understandings, our affections and the outward man, our interests and our hopes, that we may live in this world pleasing to Thee, and may go out of this world with the peace of a holy conscience, and may have a joyful resurrection in the last day, to a participation of the glories of GOD,

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through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR THE AFFLICTED.

LAKE.

O LORD, bless all the afflicted members of the Body of Thy SON, wheresoever, howsoever distressed; send them constant patience, and speedy deliverance, as seems best to Thee, and is best for them; and do unto them according to all those mercies, which I would or should desire Thou shouldest show to my own soul, if at any time Thou shalt be pleased to make my estate as theirs is at this present; and then, O LORD, be merciful. *Amen.*

FOR THE SICK.

HELE.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, the help of all

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that put their trust in Thee, incline Thine ear to me, who desire now to make my prayer and supplication in behalf of Thy servant now lying on the bed of sickness. Look upon him, I beseech Thee, with pity and compassion; be favourable and gracious unto him according to his need and the multitude of Thy tender mercies in CHRIST JESUS our LORD.

In submission to Thy most wise disposal, I implore Thee to abate his distemper, to ease his pains, and to restore him in Thy due time to health and strength: but however Thou shalt be pleased to deal with his corruptible body, yet let his soul be ever precious in Thy sight; wash it, O LORD, in the Blood of Thy blessed SON, that cleansed from all defilements it may be presented pure and spotless before the throne of Thy grace.

O give him a right discerning of the things which belong unto his peace: enable him to finish the great

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work he has to do; give him true repentance of all his sins, and a firm reliance on Thy most gracious promises; and grant him that peace of GOD which passeth all understanding. Fit him, O LORD, I pray Thee, for living and dying, for whatever in Thy wise and righteous Providence Thou hast designed for him: and if Thou hast determined that this sickness shall be a sickness unto death, prepare him, O merciful GOD, by Thy grace for Thy blessed Self, and grant him a safe and comfortable passage out of this world to that which is infinitely better, through the merits and mediation of Thy blessed SON, our SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

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FOR THE SICK WHO DESIRE THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY and most Gracious FATHER, Who art the Fountain of life, and health, and pardon, hear the prayers of Thy servants in behalf of our *brother*, the miserable for the afflicted, of sinners for him whom Thou hast smitten. LORD, lay no more upon *him* than Thou shalt enable *him* to bear, but give *him* patience; and do Thou Thyself open a door for *his* escape, even by a holy and a reformed life, and a speedy recovery, or else by a blessed death, as Thou, in Thy infinite loving-kindness, shalt choose for Thy glory and *his* eternal interest.

LORD, give unto Thy *servant* a perfect repentance and a perfect pardon of all *his* sins. Remember not the errors of *his* youth, the weaknesses of *his* spirit, the surprises of *his* life,

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and the crimes of *his* choice: but join *his* present sufferings to the passion, *his* prayers to the intercession, and *his* repentance to the merits of our dearest SAVIOUR JESUS; that *he* may be pardoned and pitied, comforted and supported, sanctified and saved, in the day of recompenses.

Blessed JESUS, Who hast overcome all the powers of sin, hell, and the grave, take from Thy *servant* all inordinate fear of death, give *him* a perfect resignation of *his* will, and conformity to Thine; restrain the power of the enemy, that he may not prevail against the soul which Thou hast redeemed: if it be Thy will give *him* a speedy restitution of *his* health, and a holy use of the affliction; or if Thou hast otherwise decreed, preserve *him* in Thy fear and favour, and receive *his* soul to mercy, to pardon, and eternal life, through Thy mercies and for Thy compassion's sake, O blessed SAVIOUR and REDEEMER JESUS. *Amen.*

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PRAYER IN BEHALF OF THE SICK.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

1.

A Prayer for Repentance.

O ALMIGHTY GOD and most merciful FATHER, Who delightest not in the death of a sinner, but that he be converted from his sin, and Thou be turned from Thine anger; give unto Thy servant a deep contrition for *his* sins, a perfect hatred of them, a timely and an entire dereliction of them; grace to fear Thee, and grace to love Thee; powers to serve Thee, and time and grace to finish all the work of GOD, which Thy servant ought to do; that the soul of Thy servant, being washed white in the Blood of JESUS, may be justified by Thy mercy, sanctified by Thy Spirit,

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blessed by Thy Providence, saved by Thine infinite and eternal goodness, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

2.

For Patience and Ease.

O Almighty and most gracious SAVIOUR, Who didst suffer with meekness and patience those severe stripes of Thy FATHER'S wrath which we did deserve, but Thou didst feel, and hast established with mankind a covenant of faith and patience, a law of sufferings, making the way of the cross to be the way of heaven: give to Thy servant Thy grace, that according to Thine excellent example and holy commandment, *he* may bear the burden of the LORD with an even and a willing, an obedient and a loving spirit. O let *him* never charge Thee foolishly, nor murmur secretly, nor make too much haste; but, with faith and hope, submit *his* body and soul to Thy merciful and just dispen-

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sation; that *he* may not discompose the duties of *his* repentance by a new sin, nor provoke Thee to anger by *his* impatience, nor offend them who charitably minister to *him*, nor neglect the doing of anything that can be in *his* power or in *his* duty to do to *his* body or *his* soul. O GOD, be merciful unto Thy servant, and press not *him* with an unequal load; but remember that we are but flesh and vanity, that we are crushed before the moth, and die in Thy displeasure: give *him* ease and rest, a quiet mind and a peaceful conscience: make Thou all *his* bed in *his* sickness; and deliver *him* not into the will of *his* spiritual enemies: but glorify Thy mercies, and make Thy goodness illustrious, upon Thy servant, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD.

3.

Against Death and the fear of it.

O Eternal GOD, Who, for the sin of man, didst send death into the

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world, and by the resurrection of Thy Holy SON didst bring life to all believers; have mercy upon this Thy servant, whom Thou hast smitten with Thy rod, and brought into the valley of tears, and the shadow of death; O let not Thy fierce anger go beyond a fatherly correction; let this rod be discipline, not vengeance: let it kill *his* sin, but not the man: but in judgment remember mercy; take from Thy servant all inordinate fear; give *him* a present mind, a hopeful spirit, a faithful heart, a perfectly repenting conscience, a charitable and a devout soul. Take from *him* the fear, and take from *him* the sentence of death; preserve *his* life, and restore *his* health, if that be best for *him;* for to Thy power we submit, on Thy goodness we do depend, by Thy wisdom we desire to be governed, and that Thy love should choose for Thy servant. But if Thou hast otherwise decreed, O grant to Thy servant the comfort of a holy hope,

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and the strengths of an unconquerable faith; the constancy of an unmoved patience, and the meekness of a perfect resignation; that to *him* to live may be CHRIST, and to die may be gain; that whether *he* lives or dies, *he* may be Thine, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

4.

For Pardon.

O most gracious and eternal SON of GOD, Who only hast power to forgive sins, and to rescue erring souls from the power of sin, and from the wrath of GOD: be gracious to Thy servant, who confesses Thy justice in *his* suffering, and begs to feel Thy mercy in *his* pardon, and Thy pity in *his* ease and restitution. Contend no longer with the miserable, who confesses *himself* guilty: reject *him* not that begs for remission of *his* sins, and remission of Thine anger: remember not the follies of *his* childhood, nor the vanities of *his* youth,

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the sins of *his* tongue, nor the sins of *his* anger; the sins of desire, nor the innumerable breaches of charity; *his* infinite omissions of duty, and the inexcusable actions of *his* choice. Thou hast glorified Thyself in all generations of the world by giving pardon to the penitent, and ease to the afflicted, comfort to the comfortless, and refreshment to the weary: behold, O GOD, the sorrows of Thy servant, and remember *his* sins no more: behold the passion and the pains which our blessed LORD suffered for our sins; and let not the sins of Thy servants cause Thee to take another forfeiture, and produce another and an eternal anger: but spare Thy servant in Thine anger; and remember *him* in Thy mercy, and pity *him* in Thine infinite compassion, and relieve *him* with mighty grace, and deliver *him* from *his* sins, and bring *him* to Thy glory, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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5.

If he be in, or near, the agonies of Death.

O Blessed GOD, Thou Lover of souls and the SAVIOUR of Thy servants, Who gavest Thy SON to die for us, that we might live in Him: look with mercy and great compassion upon the soul of Thy servant, for whom the LORD JESUS gave His precious Blood. Now, O GOD, is that sad period in which *he* is to be consigned over to *his* final sentence: now is the day of *his* great expense; *his* needs of mercy are great as *his* sins, and great as *his* dangers, and great as all *his* enemies; let *him* receive the fruit of all *his* labours, a blessed return of all *his* prayers, the grace of Thy promises, and the effect of all the sufferings of the Holy JESUS: now, O GOD, let *him* find the end of *his* hopes, and a just peace in *his* conscience, a spiritual communion with CHRIST, and the benefit of all

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His Passion, pardon of *his* sins, and the sweetest visitations of Thy HOLY SPIRIT the Comforter. Now let *him* feel the effect of Thy mighty power and of Thy glorious victory over sin and all the powers of darkness: let them have no portion in *him;* and let Thine anger end in comfort and pardon, in the visitation of Angels, and the glorious appearing of Thy HOLY SPIRIT. Now let *him* feel the truth of religion, and the substance of the things *he* hath hoped for; the verification of Thy promises, and the goodness of GOD; let all the sermons of the Gospel pass into real exhibition of Thy loving-kindness: and let Thy servant rejoice in the portions of the blessed, in the redemption of *his* soul, in the communion of saints, in the society of the spirits of just men made perfect, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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FOR THE DYING.

From the New Manual.

O Lord, we pray Thee, raise up Thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour Thy servant now languishing in great weakness of body. Look with mercy on him, who in our eyes is now drawing near the time of his dissolution.

Perfect, O Lord, his repentance, and make it effectual, through the Blood of the ever-blessed Jesus. For Christ's sake pardon all the errors of his past life, that he may come to his great change without guilt, and that he may feel its approach without fear. O grant that through the valley of the shadow of death he may look to the bright regions of eternal bliss, in a well-grounded assurance of reconciliation with Thee.

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But whether Thou seest fit to give him such a foretaste of happiness, yet, O merciful GOD, take him not out of this world until Thou hast fitted and prepared him for a better, that when he goes forth to meet the Bridegroom, he may not find the door for ever shut against him. O LORD, with Thee nothing is impossible—if Thou wilt, Thou canst even yet raise him up, and grant him a longer continuance amongst us: nevertheless, not our will, but Thine be done: into Thy hands we desire to commit him: to Thy mercies in CHRIST JESUS we commend him. O LORD, hear his prayers, and the prayers of all his friends for him; support him in his last agonies; strengthen him under all his weaknesses; visit him with the strong consolations of the HOLY SPIRIT; and finally receive him into the blessed society of Saints and Angels, there to love, and praise, and adore Thee to all eternity, through the merits of Thy beloved

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SON, JESUS CHRIST the Righteous. *Amen* and *Amen*.

FOR MADMEN.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Whose wisdom is infinite, Whose mercy is eternal, Whose tranquillity is essential, and Whose goodness hath no shore; in judgment remember mercy, and do Thou delight to magnify Thy mercy upon them who need it, but cannot ask it; who are in misery, but feel it not; who do actions without choice, or choose without discretion and sober understanding. Pity the evil they suffer, and pardon the evils that they have done, and impute not unto them the evils which they rather bear than act; and let not their entry into this calamity be an exclusion from their future pardon; but let this

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sad calamity and judgment which they bear, be united to the sufferings of our LORD, and be sanctified by His intercession, and become an instrument of their peace. LORD, restore them to their health and understanding; take from them all violent passions, and remove all evil objects far from their eyes and ears: create a clean heart, and renew a right spirit in them: give them sober thoughts and meek spirits, contempt of the world, and love of holy things; suffer them not to do violence to any man, and let no man do violence to them: let them be safe under the conduct of Thy Providence, and the public laws, and be innocent under the conduct of Thy HOLY SPIRIT; that when Thou shalt return and speak peace to Thy people, they may rejoice in Thy mercies and salvation. Thou didst, O GOD, show mercy to Nebuchadnezzar, and gavest to him the heart of a man, after he had sinned, and fallen into the lot of

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beasts and wildness; and Thy hand is not shortened that Thou canst not help; but let Thy mercies and loving-kindness return upon Thy servants as at first, that Thou mayest rejoice in Thy mercies and salvation, because Thou hast pleasure in the prosperity of Thy servants. Grant this, Almighty GOD and FATHER, for JESUS CHRIST'S sake our LORD and dearest SAVIOUR. *Amen.*

IN BEHALF OF IDIOTS.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ETERNAL and most blessed SAVIOUR JESUS, Who art the wisdom of the FATHER, and art made unto us wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption, have pity upon the miserable people to whom Thou hast given life and no understanding, Thou didst create us of nothing, and

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gavest us being when we were not, and createdest in us capacity of blessings when we had none, and gavest us many when we did not understand them; Thou bringest infants from the womb, and from the state of nature to the state of grace, and from their mother's breasts Thou dost often convey them to the bosom of JESUS, and yet they do nothing, but Thou art glorified in Thy free gift. O be gracious to all natural fools and innocents, for Thou hatest nothing which Thou hast made, and lovest every soul which Thou hast redeemed; we, that have reason, can deserve heaven no more than these can; but these do not deserve hell so much as we have done. Impute not to them their follies that are unavoidable, nor the sins which they discern not, nor the evils which they cannot understand; keep them from all evil and sad mischances, and make supply of their want of the defences of reason by the special guard of An-

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gels; and let Thy obedience and Thy sufferings be accepted, and Thy intercession prevail for them; that since they cannot glorify Thee by a free obedience, Thou mayest be glorified by Thy free mercies to them; and for their destitution of good in this world, let them receive eternal blessings in the world to come, through Thy mercies, O eternal and most blessed SAVIOUR JESUS. *Amen.*

FOR OUR ENEMIES.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O LORD, I beseech Thee, forgive mine enemies all their sins against Thee, and give me that measure of Thy grace, that for their hatred I may love them, for their cursing I may bless them, for their injury I may do them good, and for their

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persecution I may pray for them. LORD, I pray for them; forgive them, for they know not what they do. *Amen.*

FOR ENEMIES.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

BLESSED FATHER, bless all sorts of men in their particulars; mine enemies with the forgiveness of sins: turn their hearts, that they may no longer hate Thy servant; and if they will not be turned, deliver me not over, I beseech Thee, into their power. And next after the salvation of my soul, I humbly beg it, deliver me not into the hands of men, to the shame or scorn of the world. *Amen.*

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FOR HERETICS.

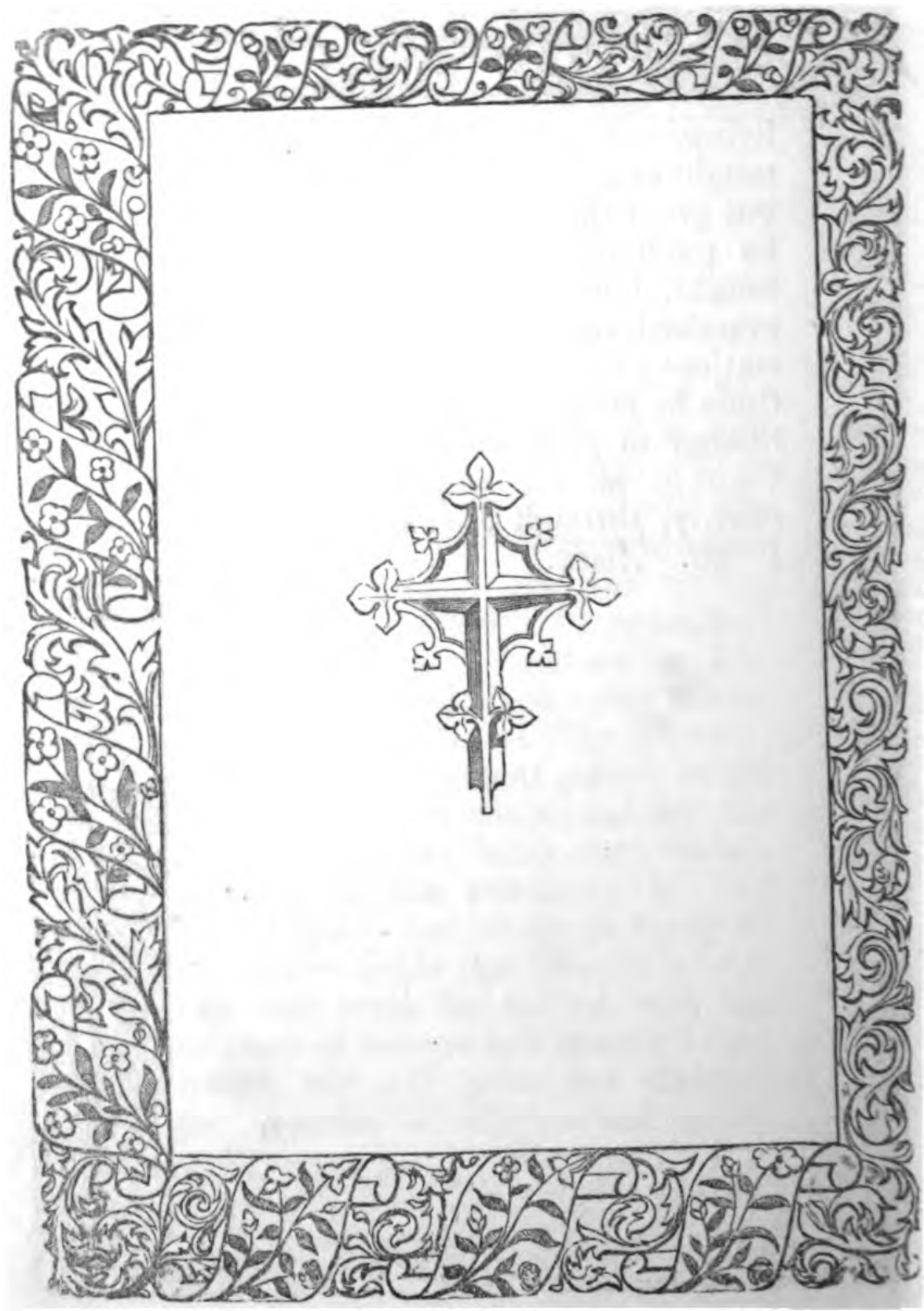
BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O MOST blessed, most gracious SAVIOUR JESUS, Who art the Way, and the Truth, and the Life; Thou That art a Light to them that sit in darkness, the Light that lighteneth every man that cometh into the world; preserve Thy Church in peace and truth, in love and holiness, to Thy second coming: reduce every misbeliever to the fold of Thy Church; instruct every ignorant person in the ways of godly wisdom; subdue the pride of man, and bring every understanding to the obedience of Thy sacred law. Let no man's vanity or ignorance divide the Church, let not any holy truth be sullied with the mixture of impure and heretical doctrines, nor evil principles disorder the beauties of religion and godly

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living, nor any doctrines of men be taught as the commandment of GOD; but grant that the truth of GOD may be publicly maintained, constantly taught, humbly believed, zealously practised by all men in their several stations; that in the Church of GOD there be no contention but in giving honour to each other, and glory to GOD in all the ways of faith and charity, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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Acts of Praise, Adoration,

and

Thanksgiving.

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I WILL SACRIFICE UNTO THEE WITH THE VOICE OF THANKSGIVING.

JONAH II. 9.

IN EVERY THING BY PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION WITH THANKSGIVING, LET YOUR REQUESTS BE MADE KNOWN UNTO GOD.

PHILIPPIANS IV. 6.

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Acts of Praise, Adoration,

and

Thanksgiving.

AN ACT OF PRAISE.

BISHOP ANDREWES.

O LORD, my LORD, I bless Thee:
For my being, my life, my endowment with reason;
For my nourishment, my preservation, my guidance;
For my education, my civil government, my religion;

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For the gifts of grace, of nature, of the world;

For my redemption, for my regeneration, my instruction in the truth;

For the voice of Thy calling, repeated often, again and again;

For Thy patience, Thy long-suffering, Thy very long forbearance,

Many a time and oft, and many a year till now;

For all the benefits I have received, for all my undertakings which have prospered;

For all the little good I may have done;

For the enjoyment of present good, for Thy promise and my hope of enjoying good to come:

For my kind and honest parents, my gentle teachers,

My benefactors never to be forgotten;

My brethren of one mind with me, my congregation, who listen to me;

My relations, who are my friends, my faithful domestics.

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For all who

By their { Writings / Sermons / Discourses / Prayers / Examples / Reproofs / Persecutions } have done me good,

For all these, and for all others,
Known or unknown, open or concealed, remembered or forgotten,
Asked or unasked,
I praise Thee and will praise,
I bless Thee and will bless,
I thank Thee, and will give Thee thanks.

Who am I, O LORD GOD, and what is my father's house, that Thou shouldest look upon such a dead dog as I am?

What reward shall I give unto the LORD, for all the benefits that He hath done unto me?

What thanks can I render unto GOD for all things wherein He hath spared me until now?

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Holy, Holy, Holy, LORD GOD Almighty, Thou art worthy, O LORD, to receive glory, and honour, and power; for Thou hast created all things, and for Thy pleasure they are and were created. *Amen.*

AN ACT OF ADORATION.

BISHOP ANDREWES.

O GOD the FATHER, of heaven,
Who didst wonderfully create the world out of nothing;
Who by Thy power dost govern and uphold the heavens and the earth;
Who didst deliver Thine only-begotten SON to death for us:
O GOD the SON, REDEEMER of the world,
Who didst vouchsafe to be incarnate of a virgin;

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Who by Thy precious Blood hast cleansed us from sin;

Who, having risen from the dead, didst ascend in triumph to heaven:

O God, the Holy Ghost, the Comforter,

Who didst descend upon Jesus under the form of a dove;

Who didst sit upon the Apostles like tongues of fire;

Who didst visit and confirm by Thy grace the hearts of Thy Saints:

O holy, supreme, everlasting, glorious, and blessed Trinity, ever worthy to be praised, yet ever ineffable;

O righteous Father, O kind Son, O gentle Spirit,

Of majesty inexpressible, of power incomparable, of goodness inestimable, Whose work is life, Whose love is grace, Whose contemplation is glory;

Unity in Trinity, but One Godhead;

I pray to Thee, I call upon Thee, I bless Thee, with the whole strength of my heart now and for ever. *Amen.*

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Thou That art the GOD of the living; as well as of the dead;

To Whom both we belong, whom the present life yet detains in the flesh, and they also, who, having put off the body, have passed into the life to come;

Grant unto the living mercy and grace;

Grant unto the dead eternal rest and light;

Grant unto Thy Church truth and peace,

And unto us sinners penitence and pardon. *Amen.*

GENERAL THANKSGIVING.

HELE.

O MOST gracious and most bountiful LORD! Who art good, and doest good, and art pleased in mercy; I desire to bless and adore Thy holy

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Name for all the manifestations of Thy goodness to me and all mankind. I bless Thee for making us after Thine own Image, capable of knowing, serving, and enjoying Thee for ever; and for restoring us when lost, to the hope of immortal happiness, by the sufferings and death, the resurrection and intercession of Thy blessed SON JESUS CHRIST; Who came into the world to redeem us from the punishment of our sins by His Blood, and from the power of them by His grace; and by both to bring us to His glory.

O LORD, I bless Thee for all Thy spiritual and temporal blessings to my friends, relations, and benefactors. More particularly I adore and magnify Thy mercy to me, Thy most sinful and unworthy servant. I thank Thee for the use of all Thy present good things; and for the hope of the future; for my natural and spiritual life; and for Thy great bounty in vouchsafing to me so many advan-

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tages for the comfortable support of the one, and the happy improvement of the other, above what Thou affordest to multitudes of my fellow-creatures. I praise Thee for Thy preventing and assisting grace; for any good notions Thou hast raised in my heart; for being kept from any wilful sin, or enabled to overcome any temptation. I thank Thee, O LORD, for every degree of holiness, and for every increase of knowledge in divine or useful truths.

Blessed be Thy holy Name, O GOD! for Thy renewed goodness to me this day; for Thy patience and long-suffering towards me notwithstanding my continued provocations; for the protection and guidance of Thy Spirit and Providence; for delivering me from innumerable accidents and dangers; for all the benefits I have received; for any good I have thought, or said, or done.

LORD, give me grace so to use and improve all Thy blessings here, that

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they may be an earnest to me of those richer blessings, which Thou hast prepared in heaven for those that love Thee, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD; to Whom with Thee, and the HOLY GHOST, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

A FORM OF GENERAL THANKSGIVING.

BISHOP KEN.

"WORTHY art Thou, O LORD of heaven and earth, to receive glory, and honour, and power, for Thou hast created all things, and for Thy pleasure they are and were created."

Thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens with all their host, the earth and all things that are therein, Thou preservest them all, and the host of heaven praiseth Thee.

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Glory be to Thee, O LORD GOD Almighty, for creating man after Thine own Image, and making so great variety of creatures, to minister to his use!

Glory be to Thee, Who givest us life, and breath, and all things; Who givest us fruitful seasons, and fillest our hearts with food and gladness!

Glory be to Thee, O LORD GOD, for all Thy many blessings and deliverances, for all Thy forbearance and long-suffering to this sinful nation! Glory be to Thee, O LORD, Who hast made me also share in those public mercies, and for that light of the Gospel Thou vouchsafest us, of which the greatest part of the world is totally ignorant.

Glory be to Thee, O Heavenly FATHER, for my being and preservation, strength and health, understanding and memory, friends and benefactors, and for all my abilities of mind and body.

Glory be to Thee, O Heavenly

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FATHER, for my competent livelihood, for my education, for all my known or unknown deliverances, and for the guard Thy holy Angels keep over me.

But above all, glory be to Thee, for giving Thy only SON to die for my sins, and for all the spiritual blessings He has purchased for me, for my baptism, and all the opportunities Thou givest me of serving Thee, or of receiving the holy Eucharist; for whatever sin I have escaped, for whatever good I have done or thought, for all my helps of grace and hopes of heaven, glory be to Thee! Praise the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, praise His holy Name.

Glory be to Thee, O LORD JESUS, for Thy inexpressible love to lost man! Glory be to Thee, O LORD, for condescending to take our frail nature on Thee: Glory be to Thee, for all Thy heavenly doctrine to instruct us, Thy great miracles to con-

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vince us, and Thy unblameable example to guide us.

Glory be to Thee, O blessed JESUS, for Thy agony and bloody sweat, for all the torments and anguish of Thy bitter passion.

Glory be to Thee, O blessed JESUS, for Thy glorious resurrection and ascension into heaven, and intercession for us at the right hand of Thy FATHER!

O gracious LORD, Thou That hast done so much for me, how can I ever sufficiently praise and love Thee!

Praise the LORD JESUS, O my soul, and all that is within me, praise His holy Name!

Glory be to Thee, O blessed SPIRIT, glory be to Thee, for all the miraculous gifts and graces Thou didst bestow on the Apostles, to fit them to convert the world, and for inspiring the sacred penmen of Holy Scripture.

Glory be to Thee for instilling holy thoughts into my soul, for all the ghostly strength, and support,

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and comfort, and illumination we receive from Thee; for all Thy preventing, and restraining and sanctifying grace, glory be to Thee!

Blessed SPIRIT! let me never more by my sins grieve Thee Who art the Author of life and joy to me! Praise the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, praise His holy Name.

[*Here, if you recite this thanksgiving, on any great festival, or Saint's day, you may add*], Particularly, O LORD, I am bound to praise Thee, for the great blessing we this day commemorate. [*Here mention it, for instance, the Nativity of our Blessed* SAVIOUR, *or the like.*]

Or for the Saint, whose memory we this day celebrate, [*Here you may name him, and add,*] Praise the LORD therefore, O my soul and all that is within me.

Blessing, and honour, and thanksgiving, and praise, more than I can utter, more than I can conceive, be

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unto Thee, O most adorable TRINITY, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST, by all Angels, all men, all creatures, for ever and ever. *Amen, Amen.*

GENERAL THANKSGIVING.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O LORD, I give Thee humble and hearty thanks for the measure of knowledge which Thou hast given me of Thy truth; for giving me a love to it, and Thy Church; for quieting my soul in the midst of Thy Church's distractions; for the measure of rest and repose which Thou hast given me in Thee, whereas no true content is found without Thee.

LORD, I give Thee humble thanks likewise for the temporal blessings which Thou hast heaped on me; the means which Thou hast given me to do good. LORD, I cannot name

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all Thy blessings; how shall I thank Thee for them? LORD, I will thank Thee for them, by honouring Thee in them. O give a heart to desire all this, and grace to perform it; that my sins may be forgiven me, and that I may be Thine, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

O praise the LORD, for He is gracious; O sing unto His Name, for it is lovely. I will give thanks unto Thee, O LORD, with my whole heart, I will worship towards Thy holy Temple, and praise Thy Name; and that because of Thy loving-kindness and truth, for Thou hast magnified Thy Name and Thy Word above all things. LORD, give me grace to obey Thy Word, and to honour Thy Name for ever, in JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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THANKSGIVING.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O LORD, I give Thee humble and hearty thanks; increase my thankfulness, I beseech Thee, for all benefits and blessings, both spiritual and temporal, which in the riches of Thy great mercy thou hast liberally poured down upon me, but especially spiritual. LORD, let me not live but to praise and magnify Thee and Thy glorious Name. Particularly I give Thee most unfeigned thanks for my preservation from the time of my birth to the present moment, for, &c. For bringing me safe to the beginning of this day, in which and all the days of my life, I beseech Thee, preserve me from sin and danger, in soul and in body, that all my thoughts, words, and works, may

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tend to the honour and glory of Thy Name, the good of Thy Church, the discharge of my duty, the salvation of my soul in the day of my appearance and account to be made before Thee, through JESUS CHRIST, our only SAVIOUR and REDEEMER. *Amen.*

THANKSGIVING FOR THE BLESSINGS OF THIS LIFE.

HELE.

O LORD GOD! Thou strength of our health, in Whom we live, and move, and have our being; Who givest to all men life, and breath, and all things; we render Thee most hearty and humble thanks and praise for our health and strength, for our food and raiment, and for all the good things of this life, which by Thy great mercy we enjoy; beseeching Thee still to

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continue the same in us, and to give us grace always to use them to the advancement of Thy glory, to the good of our fellow creatures, and the furtherance of our own salvation, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

AT MORNING PRAYER FOR THE MERCIES OF THE PAST NIGHT.

HELE.

O ALMIGHTY GOD! I give Thee humble thanks, that Thou hast vouchsafed to deliver me from all the perils and dangers of the night past: grant, I beseech Thee, most merciful FATHER, that I through Thy help may both faithfully live, and walk according to Thy will in this life present, and also may be partaker of everlasting glory in the life to come,

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through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

FOR THE MORNING.

LAKE.

PRAISED be the LORD, from the rising up of the sun to the going down of the same.

Thou art my GOD, and I will thank Thee; Thou art my GOD, and I will praise Thee; Who hast lightened mine eyes that I sleep not in death; hast delivered me from all the terrors of the night, and from the evil that walketh in darkness; Who renewest Thy mercies to me every morning, and hast given me one more day to serve Thee, and call upon Thy Name. I laid me down and slept, and rose up again, for Thou, LORD, only makest me to dwell in safety: to Thee, therefore, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST,

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the blessed, glorious, and undivided TRINITY, be honour and glory this day, and for evermore. *Amen.*

AT EVENING PRAYER FOR THE MERCIES OF THE DAY.

HELE.

O LORD our Heavenly FATHER, by Whose gracious Providence both day and night are governed, we humbly present unto Thee our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving for Thy Fatherly goodness towards us the day past; earnestly beseeching Thee to continue Thy merciful protection over us this night. Lighten our eyes that we sleep not in death; defend us from all dangers ghostly and bodily; and keep us in perpetual peace and safety. And forasmuch as Thou hast made the time of our departure out of this life uncertain, grant that we

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may be always watching for the coming of our LORD to judgment, and so wisely employ the few remaining days of our pilgrimage here on earth, that when we leave this world, our souls may be admitted into those blessed mansions which Thou hast appointed for the departed spirits of the righteous; there to abide in perfect rest and peace, till the sound of the last trumpet shall awaken our bodies also unto a glorious resurrection to eternal life, through the merits of Thine only SON JESUS CHRIST our SAVIOUR. *Amen.*

THANKSGIVING FOR A SPECIAL BLESSING.

HELE.

O LORD GOD, FATHER of mercies, Fountain of comfort and blessing, of life and peace, of plenty and pardon,

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Who fillest heaven with Thy glory, and earth with Thy goodness, I give Thee the most earnest and most humble returns of my glad and thankful heart, for that Thou hast refreshed me with Thy comfort, and enlarged me with Thy blessing; for besides the blessings of all mankind, the blessings of nature, and the blessings of grace, the support of every minute, and the comfort of every day, Thou hast opened Thine hand, and at this time hast poured out an excellent expression of Thy loving-kindness upon me Thy most unworthy servant in—[*Here name the blessing*].

Thou, LORD, hast not only spared me when I deserved punishment, but hast distinguished me by this and many other special acts of grace and favour. O enlarge my heart with thankfulness, and fill my mouth with praises, that my returns of love and duty may bear some proportion to Thy marvellous loving-kindness and mercy; and grant me grace to im-

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prove these and all Thy other blessings to the ends for which they are bestowed, even to the setting forth of Thy glory, and setting forward my own salvation and the good of others, through the merits and mediation of our blessed SAVIOUR and REDEEMER, JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

A THANKSGIVING AFTER CHILDBIRTH.

(By the mother).

BISHOP COSIN.

GRACIOUS GOD, by Whose Providence we are fearfully and wonderfully made, Who beholdest us when we are yet imperfect, and in Whose book are all our members written; I humbly beseech Thee to accept this my reverence of Thy power, and to receive this my most hearty praise

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and thanksgiving, which I now offer up unto Thy Divine Majesty, for Thy blessed favour and goodness towards me, in vouchsafing to assist me during the time of this my dangerous travail, and to bless me with a joyful benediction, even the fruit of mine own womb. Behold, O LORD, what Thine own hands alone have fashioned; and grant that this little infant, which Thou hast made by Thy power, may be preserved by Thy goodness, and forthwith enjoying the benefit of Thy holy baptism, may be made a lively member of Thy Church, and be carefully brought up to serve Thee in all godliness and honesty; through the merits of Thy well-beloved SON, JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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A THANKSGIVING AFTER A SAFE DELIVERANCE.

(By the Mother.)

SPINCKES.

THOU hast, of Thy great goodness, O LORD, carried me safely through the pain and peril of childbirth. I desire, therefore, to pay my most humble acknowledgments and profoundest adoration to Thee, my SAVIOUR and Deliverer. To Thee be the praise that another child is born into the world; and that Thou hast preserved me, its mother, under the sorrows with which I was encompassed. O be pleased to continue, increase, and sanctify Thy mercies to Thine unworthy servant, that I may live to Thy honour, by Whose Providence alone it is that I live at all. Perfect what

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Thou hast begun in me, and so establish my health, that I may be fitted to praise and serve Thee. Preserve me from the power of the tempter, and the corruption of my own evil heart, that I may not misspend any of the time Thou grantest me for better purposes; but my whole study may be to observe Thy statutes, and be every day improving in my obedience to them.

And cast an eye of pity on my poor infant, which is not able to pray for itself: preserve it to be an useful instrument of Thy glory. Grant it the grace of baptismal regeneration, that, being received into covenant with Thee, it may be stedfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in charity, and so pass through the waves of this troublesome world, that finally it may come to the land of everlasting rest, there to reign with Thee, in Thy heavenly glory, world without end, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD, Who liveth and reigneth

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with Thee and the HOLY GHOST, One GOD, blessed for evermore. *Amen.*

THANKSGIVING AFTER CHILD-BIRTH.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O ALMIGHTY LORD and FATHER, Who healest every sickness and every disease, and art ever gracious and always present to the prayers of them who, in the day of trouble, call upon Thy holy Name; Thou hast given delivery to this Thy servant [and made her the mother of a living child], still be pleased to continue and renew Thy loving-kindness unto her; keep her from all violent accidents and intolerable pains, from colds and fevers; defend her by the custody of Thy holy Angels of light, from all impresses of the powers of

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darkness: give her rest and sleep, a quiet spirit, and an easy body; confidence in Thee, and a daily sense of Thy mercies; a speedy restitution of health and strength, and a thankful heart to praise Thee in the congregation of Saints, and to serve Thee with an increasing and a persevering duty all the days of her life, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

THANKSGIVING AFTER CHILD-BIRTH.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

O MOST merciful SAVIOUR and REDEEMER JESUS, Who wert born of a pure and holy maid; Who hast felt the calamities of mankind, and knowest how to pity our infirmities, and rejoicest in doing and in showing mercy to all that need, and to all that call to Thee for succour: we

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give Thee thanks and praise, that Thou hast heard the prayers, and considered the cries, and relieved the necessities, of this Thy servant, and kept her life from the grave, still continuing to her a portion in the land of the living, and opportunities of serving Thee. O be pleased to continue and increase, and to sanctify Thy mercies to Thy servant: pardon all her sins, pity her infirmities, enable her duty, keep her from all evil by Thy blessed Providence, let her portion be in the things of GOD and of religion, in the light of Thy countenance, and the service of Thy Majesty: that she, walking humbly and devoutly before Thee, piously and dutifully to her relatives, doing justice, and giving good example to those with whom she shall converse, may find the rewards of holiness, and the eternal mercies of GOD, in the day of Thy glorious appearing, O blessed SAVIOUR and REDEEMER JESUS. *Amen.*

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THANKSGIVING AFTER A BAPTISM.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

WE give Thee thanks and praise, O Heavenly and most Gracious FATHER, that it hath pleased Thee to call this child to Thy holy baptism, to renew him with Thy HOLY SPIRIT, to admit him into the Church, to adopt him for Thy child, and to receive him unto the profession of Thy faith: and we humbly beseech Thee to grant unto him Thy grace, to accompany him all the days of his life, that he may hold fast the profession of his faith, making his calling and election sure; that his body being washed in pure water, and he tasting of the heavenly gift, being made partaker of the HOLY GHOST, and sprinkled in his heart from an evil

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conscience, he may follow Thee in the regeneration, and, after the end of this life, he may for ever be with them who have washed their robes and made them white in the Blood of the LAMB. Grant this, O GOD our FATHER, through JESUS CHRIST, our blessed SAVIOUR and REDEEMER.

O most holy, most gracious SAVIOUR JESUS, Who lovest Thy Church and hast given Thyself for it, that Thou mayest sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water in the Word; do Thou with Thy HOLY SPIRIT enlighten, and with Thy Word instruct, the understanding of this child, that he may live by faith, and may receive the secrets of Thy kingdom, and know Thy Will, and obey Thy laws, and promote Thy glory.

O GOD, be Thou his FATHER for ever, CHRIST his elder Brother and his LORD; the Church his mother; let the Body of CHRIST be his food, the Blood of CHRIST his drink, and

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the SPIRIT the earnest of his inheritance. Let faith be his learning, religion his employment, his whole life be spiritual, heaven the object of his hopes, and the end of his labours; let him be Thy servant in the kingdom of grace, and Thy son in the kingdom of glory, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

THANKSGIVING AFTER CONFIRMATION.

I BLESS and praise Thy holy Name, O LORD GOD, for those renewed assurances which Thou hast vouchsafed me, of Thy favour and gracious goodness towards me; and for that, though in Thine infinite wisdom Thou hast thought fit to withdraw the extraordinary gifts of Thy HOLY SPIRIT, Thou art yet pleased to guide Thy faithful servants by His secret

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and invisible communications when they seek them in a regular and ministerial way. O therefore let the blessing which I have received by the hands of Thy servant the Bishop, be and remain with me, and most powerfully help and support me in all trials and temptations, when I most need the aid of Thy HOLY SPIRIT. Leave me not a moment to my own frailty, without His assistance; but, through His succours, enable me to adhere to that public and solemn profession of my faith, which I have declared in the presence of GOD, and the congregation; and faithfully to perform the promises I have renewed, of observing and keeping Thy holy commandments; that walking uprightly before Thee all my days, and being found watching, when my appointed time shall come, I may, from a life of righteousness, be translated to a life of glory, through JESUS CHRIST, my only SAVIOUR and REDEEMER. *Amen.*

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THANKSGIVING IN SICKNESS, ON THE ABATEMENT OF PAIN.

KETTLEWELL.

BLESSED be Thy mercy, O my GOD, Which pitieth me in my misery. As a father pitieth his children in the extremity of their pain, so hast Thou pitied me. LORD, my soul shall love Thee, and sing of Thy mercy; and in my distress I will always trust in Thee, and not be afraid, for Thou art our strength, whilst we suffer; and our merciful deliverer when we can endure no more. To Thee be glory, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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THANKSGIVING IN SICKNESS ON AMENDMENT OR PROSPECT OF RECOVERY.

NEW MANUAL.

O FATHER of mercies, and GOD of all comfort, Who hast vouchsafed to grant me some ease, and to abate the severity of my distemper, accept, I humbly pray Thee, of my unfeigned thanks for this, and for all other Thy mercies bestowed upon me. Blessed be Thy goodness, O LORD, that I have strength to praise Thee; that my senses and understanding are preserved entire; and that though I am brought very low, I am not without hopes that Thou wilt raise me up. O perfect, if it be Thy blessed Will, what Thou hast begun in me; and forsake not, I beseech Thee, the work of Thine own hands. Repair all the decays in my outward man,

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and let my mind also be endued with greater strength and abilities to do Thee service, and with stronger desires and resolutions of loving and obeying Thee. Visit me, O LORD, with Thy heavenly consolations; fill me with comfortable thoughts of Thy love, and of that tender compassionate care which our LORD JESUS takes of all His afflicted servants. Give me a still more perfect submission to Thy Will, that without any murmuring or repining, I may wait upon Thee, till Thou seest fit to finish my recovery: and as my strength increases, so let my resolutions grow stronger, of serving Thee faithfully all the remainder of my life; for which end I implore the assistance of Thy HOLY SPIRIT, through JESUS CHRIST my LORD; to Whom, with Thee, O FATHER, and the ever-blessed COMFORTER, be all honour, glory, love, service, and obedience, by me, and all Thy creatures, for evermore. *Amen.*

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THANKSGIVING FOR RECOVERY FROM SICKNESS.

BISHOP KEN.

O LORD GOD, Who hast in Thy tender mercy prolonged my days in this world; give me grace to spend that life Thou hast now lengthened, in Thy service. O give me grace to perform all my resolutions of new obedience, and so to live in the filial fear of Thee, all the remainder of my life, that I may at last die at peace with myself, at peace with the whole world, and at peace with Thee, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

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THANKSGIVING FOR RECOVERY FROM SICKNESS.

ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

O LORD, I give Thee humble and hearty thanks for the great and almost miraculous bringing of me back from the bottom of my grave. What Thou hast further for me to do or to suffer, Thou alone knowest. LORD, give me patience and courage, and all Christian resolution to do Thee service, and grace to do it. And let me not live longer, than to honour Thee, through JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

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A THANKSGIVING AFTER RECOVERY FROM SICKNESS.

INETT.

O LORD, Who hast chastised and corrected me, but not given me over unto death, and so wrought for Thy Name's sake, that I am now alive to praise Thee; O teach me to declare Thy works, and from day to day to tell of Thy salvation; that I may daily honour Thy Name, and preserve Thy goodness in everlasting remembrance, that has raised me up from the gates of death, and once more restored the voice of joy and health to my dwelling. O kindle in my soul the most sincere and holy love. Raise my heart to the highest pitch of gratitude; and, whilst I have my being, teach me to praise Thee with joyful lips. O let Thy loving correction make me great in Thy favour,

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and teach me never more to sleep in security and sin. O let it be good for me that I have been afflicted, by teaching me from thence that my days are as a shadow, and my years as nothing, and in my best estate I am altogether vanity. That I may wait all the days of my appointed time till my change shall come; and be ready at what hour my LORD shall call. That Thy scourge may prepare me for Thy love, and Thy correction fit me to be received into Thy arms. Teach me to abhor my own iniquities, and raise my affections beyond the vanities of this world, that I may love Thee above all things, and my neighbour as myself. Let Thy Angels keep me in all Thy ways, that, whatever I do, I may do all to Thy glory. O let grace increase with my strength. Let my delight be in Thy law, that I may be exemplary in my life before men, that living, I may live in Thy fear, and dying, I may die in Thy favour,

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and rest for ever in the felicities of Thy chosen, through JESUS CHRIST my SAVIOUR and REDEEMER. *Amen.*

THANKSGIVING FOR RECOVERY FROM SICKNESS.

WHOLE DUTY OF MAN.

O GRACIOUS LORD, the GOD of the spirits of all flesh, in Whose hand my time is, I praise and magnify Thee, that Thou hast, in love to my soul, delivered it from the pit of corruption, and restored me to health again. It is Thou alone, O LORD, That hast preserved my life from destruction; Thou hast chastised and corrected me, but Thou hast not given me over unto death. O let the life which Thou hast thus graciously spared, be wholly consecrated to Thee. Behold, O LORD, I am by Thy mercy made whole; O make me care-

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ful to sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto me. LORD, let not this reprieve Thou hast now given me, make me secure, as thinking that my LORD delayeth His coming; but grant me, I beseech Thee, to make a right use of this long-suffering of Thine, and so to employ every minute of that time Thou shalt allow me, that when Thou shalt appear, I may have confidence, and not be ashamed before Thee at Thy coming. LORD, I have found by this approach towards death, how dreadful a thing it is to be taken unprepared: O let it be a perpetual admonition to me to watch for my Master's coming. And when the pleasures of sin shall present themselves to entice me, O make me to remember how bitter they will be at the last. O LORD, hear me, and as Thou hast in much mercy afforded me time, so grant me grace to work out my own salvation, to provide oil in my lamp, that when the Bridegroom cometh, I may go

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with Him to the marriage. Grant this, I beseech Thee, for Thy dear SON's sake. *Amen.*

THANKSGIVING FOR THE DEPARTED.

KING EDWARD'S PRIMER.

O GOD, Which by the mouth of Thy Apostle, St. Paul, hath taught us not to wail for them that sleep in CHRIST: Grant, we beseech Thee, that in the coming of Thy SON, our LORD JESU CHRIST, Who shall come to judge the quick and the dead, and the world by fire, we, with all other faithful people being departed, may be graciously brought unto the joys everlasting. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY GOD, we give Thee hearty thanks for those Thy servants, whom Thou hast delivered from the miseries of this wretched world, from

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the body of death, and all temptation: and hast brought their souls, which they committed into Thy holy hands, into sure consolation and rest: Grant, we beseech Thee, that at the day of judgment, we, with all Thy elect departed out of this life, may fully receive Thy promises, and be made perfect altogether, through the glorious resurrection of Thy SON, JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

THANKSGIVING FOR THE GRACES AND EXAMPLES OF THE SAINTS.

LAKE.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Who by Thy holy Apostle hast taught us not only to make prayers and supplications, but also to give thanks for all men; I offer up unto Thee most high laud and humble thanks for all Thy wonderful graces and virtues which Thou

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hast declared in all Saints; chiefly in the glorious and most blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of Thy SON JESUS CHRIST; and all others who have departed this life with the seal of faith, and do now rest in the sleep of peace; such as were the Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles, Martyrs, and Confessors, holy virgins, pious matrons, and devout widows, who have washed the feet of the Saints; beseeching Thee that we may still continue in their holy communion, and enjoy the comfort thereof while we are on earth, following with a glad will and mind their holy examples of godly living and steadfastness in Thy faith; and that at the last day we with them, and they with us, may attain to the resurrection of the just, and have our perfect consummation and bliss both in body and soul in Thy eternal and everlasting glory, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD, to Whom with Thee, and the HOLY GHOST, be ascribed by us as is by Angels and

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Archangels, and the whole company of heaven, all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

THANKSGIVING FOR THOSE DEPARTED THIS LIFE IN GOD'S FAITH AND FEAR.

HELE.

I BESEECH Thee, O LORD, to accept my unfeigned thanks and praises to Thy Divine Majesty for the graces and virtues Thou hast wrought in Thy Saints, whom Thou hast bestowed upon Thy Church from the beginning of the world, to shine as lights in their generations; holy Patriarchs, and Prophets, Apostles, Martyrs, and Confessors; for whom, with all other Thy servants, our fathers and brethren, who have departed this life with the seal of faith, and do now rest in the sleep of peace,

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I do desire to praise and magnify Thy glorious Name; most humbly beseeching Thee, that I may so follow their good examples, that I may together with them attain to the resurrection of the just, and have my perfect consummation both of soul and body in Thy kingdom of glory, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*

THE DOXOLOGY.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

GLORY be to the FATHER of mercies, the FATHER of men and Angels, the FATHER of our LORD JESUS CHRIST.

Glory be to the most holy and eternal SON of GOD, the blessed SAVIOUR and REDEEMER of the world, the Advocate of sinners, the Prince of peace, the Head of the Church,

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and the mighty Deliverer of all that call upon Him.

Glory be to the holy and eternal SPIRIT of GOD, the HOLY GHOST the Comforter, the sanctifying and life-giving SPIRIT.

All glory and thanks, all honour and power, all love and obedience, be to the blessed and undivided TRINITY, one GOD eternal.

The heavens declare Thy glory, the earth confesses Thy Providence, the sea manifests Thy power; and every spirit, and every understanding creature, celebrates Thy greatness for ever and ever. All glory and majesty, all praises and dominion be unto Thee, O GOD, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

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FINAL PRAYERS.

UNTO GOD'S gracious mercy and protection I commit myself: the LORD bless me and keep me: LORD, make Thy face to shine upon me, and be gracious unto me: LORD, lift up Thy countenance upon me, and give me peace both now and evermore. *Amen.*

GOD the FATHER, bless me! GOD the SON, defend me! GOD the HOLY GHOST, preserve me! GOD the holy TRINITY, be with me now and for evermore. *Amen.*

The LORD bless and preserve me in my going out and my coming in, from this time forth, for evermore. *Amen.*

The blessing of GOD ALMIGHTY, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST, be

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with me, and all related to me, this day, [or this night] and evermore. *Amen.*

———

The LORD fulfil the desires and petitions of Thy servant, as may be most expedient for me: the LORD bless me and keep me: the LORD lift up the light of His countenance upon me, and give me peace, both now and for evermore. *Amen.*

———

To the King eternal, immortal, invisible, and only wise GOD, Who is the ever-blessed and adorable TRINITY, be all honour and glory, now and for ever.
Amen.

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PRAY WITHOUT CEASING.

1 THESSALONIANS v. 17.

I WILL THAT MEN PRAY EVERY WHERE.

1 TIMOTHY II. 8.

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Diurnal.

SHORT EJACULATIONS FOR VARIOUS TIMES AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DAY.

At Waking.

As soon as ever you awake, offer up your first thoughts and words to GOD, *saying,*

Glory be to the FATHER, and to the SON, and to the HOLY GHOST, three Persons and one GOD, blessed for evermore: all love, all praise, be to Thee.

As you are rising, say,

I laid me down and slept, and rose

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up again, for the LORD sustained me: all love, all glory, be to GOD.

At rising.

I enter into this day to do all things in the name of the FATHER, and of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST. So be it.

At your apparelling, say,

Put ye on the LORD JESUS CHRIST, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof. Clothe me, O LORD, with the ornament of Thy heavenly grace, and cover me with the robes of righteousness, through JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

At the washing of your hands, say,

O wash me throughly from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sins; make me a clean heart, O GOD, and renew a right spirit within me, a spirit cleaving steadfastly unto Thee, through JESUS CHRIST. *Amen.*

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At meals.

LORD, grant that whether I eat or drink, or whatever I do, I may do all to Thy glory.

When you hunger or thirst, say,

Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

At work.

Prosper Thou the works of my hands, O LORD; O prosper Thou my handiwork.

At going out, or coming in.

LORD, bless my going out, and coming in, from this time forth for evermore.

When you stand upon some high place, say,

Thy mercy, O LORD, reacheth unto the heavens, and Thy faithfulness unto the clouds.

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When you behold pleasant fields, and variety of objects, say,

O LORD, how manifold are Thy works, in wisdom hast Thou made them all; the earth is full of Thy riches.

When you see or hear anything extraordinary, say,

Blessed be the LORD GOD, even the GOD of Israel, Who only doeth wondrous things! And blessed be the Name of His Majesty for ever; and all the earth shall be filled with His Majesty. *Amen, Amen.*

When you hear the clock, or see the hour of the day, say,

Our days upon earth are but as a shadow; and we bring our years to an end as a tale that is told; so teach me to number my days, that I may apply my heart unto wisdom. *Amen.*

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When you are sad, or discontented say,

Why art thou so full of heaviness, O my soul, and why art thou so disquieted within me? Put thy trust in GOD, for I will yet give Him thanks for the help of His countenance.

In temptation.

LORD, succour me with Thy grace, that I may overcome this temptation.

In the shop or market.

BISHOP KEN.

LORD, give me grace to use this world so as not to abuse it.

LORD, grant that I may never go beyond, or defraud my brother in any matter, for Thou art the avenger of all such.

At any time of the day.

Wherever I am, whatever I do,

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Thou, LORD, seest me: O keep me in Thy fear all the day long.

After a sin committed.

BISHOP KEN.

LORD, be merciful to me, miserable sinner, and for the merits of my SAVIOUR, lay not this sin to my charge.

At giving alms.

BISHOP KEN.

O LORD, Who didst not despise the widow's mite, accept of this little I now give, to relieve one of Thy poor members.

After a good deed.

Not unto me, O LORD, not unto me, but unto Thy name be the praise.

After any blessing or deliverance.

Glory be to Thee, O LORD, for this blessing, or, for this deliverance! Praise the LORD, O my soul, and

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all that is within me, praise His holy Name.

In danger.

O GOD, make speed to save me: O LORD, make haste to help me.

Ejaculations before reading Holy Scripture.

BISHOP KEN.

Wherewithal, LORD, shall a young man cleanse his way? even by ruling himself after Thy Words.

LORD, open my eyes, that I may see the wonderful things of Thy law.

O Heavenly FATHER! I humbly beg Thy HOLY SPIRIT so to help me at this time to read, and understand, and to remember, and practise Thy Word, that it may make me wise to salvation.

After reading Scripture.

Blessed be Thou, O LORD, O teach me Thy statutes!

LORD, make Thy Word a lantern

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unto my feet, and a light unto my paths.

LORD, make Thy Word my delight and my counsellor.

When you are asked an alms, being able to give, say,

Blessed be GOD, Who hath not only given me ability, but this opportunity also to lay up in store for myself a good foundation against the time to come, that I may lay hold on eternal life.

When you hear others evil spoken of, say,

LORD, who shall dwell in Thy tabernacle, or who shall rest upon Thy holy hill? He that hath used no deceit in his tongue, nor done evil to his neighbour, and hath not slandered his neighbour.

Upon the sense of your sins, and the mispending of your time, say,

Call to remembrance, O LORD,

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Thy tender mercies and Thy loving-kindness which have been ever of old. O remember not the sins and offences of my youth, nor of my riper years. O deal not with me after my sins, neither reward me after mine iniquities; but according to Thy mercy, think upon me, O LORD, for Thy goodness. *Amen.*

As you enter into your bed, say,

In the Name of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, Who was crucified upon His cross, and laid into His grave for me, I lay me down to rest; He bless me, and keep me, He save me, and raise me up again; and bring me at last unto life eternal. *Amen.*

As you betake yourself to sleep, say,

Have mercy upon me, O LORD, now, and at the hour of death. *Amen.*

Preserve me while I am waking, defend me while I am sleeping, that my soul may continually watch for

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Thee, and both body and soul may rest in Thy peace for ever. *Amen.*

At bed-time.

I lay me down to rest, in the Name of the FATHER, and of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST. *Amen.*

At going to bed.

I will lay me down in peace, and take my rest; for it is Thou, LORD, only, That makest me dwell in safety.

In bed.

Glory be to the FATHER, and to the SON, and to the HOLY GHOST, three Persons and one GOD, blessed for evermore: all praise, all love be to Thee.

In the night.

BISHOP KEN.

Thou, LORD, hast granted Thy loving-kindness in the day time, and

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in the night season will I sing of Thee, and make my prayer to the GOD of my life.

O LORD, the holy Angels are now before Thy throne in heaven, they never rest day or night from Thy praises, and with them do I now sing hallelujah, salvation, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto our GOD for ever and ever. *Amen, Amen.*

LORD, I know Thou wilt one day call me to give an account of my stewardship, but when Thou wilt come I know not, whether at even, or at midnight, or at cock-crowing, or in the morning.

O do Thou give me grace to watch, and to pray always, that at Thy coming Thou mayest say to me, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of thy Master." *Amen*, blessed LORD, *Amen.*

O LORD, Thou hast proved and visited my heart in the night season, Thou hast tried me; O blessed FA-

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THER, purge me, that Thou mayest find no wickedness in me, through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. *Amen.*



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